

Israel upset over Pope's statement

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel Wednesday protested a statement by Pope John Paul II in which the pontiff called for creation of a Palestinian homeland. "We cannot but express the deep feeling of disappointment over the statement made by the Pope and our hope that the Catholic Church and those leading it would finally conduct a soul-searching regarding the political reality of these days," said minister Elmad Omeri, who is responsible for Arab affairs, made the statement in parliament on behalf of the cabinet. In a brief speech after praying the Angelus Sunday, John Paul expressed solidarity with Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. "From the Holy Land come calls for help and solidarity from the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza," he said. "They are the cries of an entire people which today is particularly tired and feels weaker after decades of conflict with another people linked to the same land by their history and their faith." He added: "I would like to express to these people my most profound solidarity, assuring them that the Pope continues to make his own their legitimate request to live in peace in a country of their own."

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ACC to pursue Jordan ILO bid

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will undertake the necessary measures on the Arab, regional, and international levels to support Jordan's nomination to the membership of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) board of directors for the years 1994-1995, Minister of Labour Jamal Al-Badour said. Upon his return from Cairo Wednesday, after participating in meetings of the ACC ministers of labour, Badour said that the ACC ministers reviewed measures to put the agreement related to employing ACC manpower into effect as well as the situation of foreign labourers in the ACC countries. The ministers also discussed standardisation of legislations related to labour force in the ACC countries, Badour added. He said that the ministers approved measures adopted in each ACC country to implement the agreement related to employment whereby priority would be given to local labourers, then to ACC labourers, and then to labourers from Arab and foreign countries. Badour said technical committees would hold a meeting in Sudan Nov. 4 to discuss standardisation of legislations.

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ACC expected to hold mini-summit in Baghdad

King joins Fao celebrations

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday joined other heads of state from the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries and representatives of other Arab countries to celebrate the rebirth of the war-battered southern Iraqi port of Fao.

President Saddam Hussein led Iraqi dignitaries to welcome King Hussein upon arrival in Baghdad accompanied by a delegation comprising Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ben Shakir, Royal Court Chief Mudar Badran, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasbi.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that President Hussein held a meeting with the heads of the other ACC countries — King Hussein, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and President Ali Abdullah Saleh of North Yemen — at the airport lounge before accompanying them to the guest palace in Baghdad.

Other Arab leaders attending the Fao celebrations are: Djibouti President Hassan Gouled, Mauritania President

Muawiah Ould Sidi Ahmad, Chairman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council Omar Hassan Ahmad Bashir, Palestine President Yasser Arafat, and Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibi.

It was expected that the four ACC leaders would hold a mini-summit on the fringes of the Fao celebrations and discuss the latest developments in the region, collective ACC work and cooperation.

In a speech to the country, President Hussein hailed the rebirth of Fao, "the town of sacrifice and gate to the great victory," which fell to Iran in February 1986 and was retaken by Iraqi troops in April last year.

"The same way they sacrificed their blood to liberate Fao, our honest people sacrificed money... to rebuild the town," Hussein said.

Tens of thousands of Iraqis poured into streets and parks to celebrate the completion of a drive to rebuild Fao.

President Hussein praised those who participated in the project to reconstruct the town, renamed "the gate of great vic-

tory."

"Fao has risen again, dressed in colourful clothes woven from the eyelashes of our valiant men and built upon their sweat," he said in the televised speech.

The government has spent millions of dinars to celebrate what newspapers called "a miracle of construction, building a new town in only 114 days."

Saudi Arabian Defence Minister Prince Sultan arrived earlier and met with Hussein to deliver a congratulatory letter from King Fahd.

Other leaders from all over the Arab World, with the exception of Syria, were also to attend parts of three days of celebrations.

President Hussein said Iraqis rebuilt the town on their own, without foreign help.

"We used our potential without going from door to door asking for help from international organisations or from the big countries," he said.

The recapture of Fao by Iraq is seen as the turning point in the eight-year-long Gulf war.

During the 114-day construction programme buildings, roads and sewers were rebuilt in a town

that at the end of the conflict was a shell-blackened ruin. Officials have said Fao is ready to receive more than 20,000 inhabitants.

Over 70,000 square metres of roads have been built or asphalted and 100 kilometres of drinking-water pipes laid in the town, official figures show.

More than 170,000 Iraqis and Iranians were believed to be killed around the town in some of the worst fighting of the war.

Before the conflict Fao was an important terminal for oil pipelines going to the Gulf some 20 kilometres to the south.

Hussein thanked other Arab states for helping the rebuilding.

Kuwait donated \$10 million to reconstruction. Jordan built a primary school and houses for government employees and Palestinians in Jerusalem donated trees.

Iraq, which has spent \$3.2 billion for rebuilding Fao and the port of Basra, says the work shows it wants lasting peace with Iran. Talks since the ceasefire have stalled because the two sides cannot agree on what issues should be tackled first.

His Majesty King Hussein is received upon arrival in Baghdad Wednesday by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein (INA photo)

Crown Prince: Jordan has bright future, but its people should shape it

AMMAN (J.T.) — Despite some negative aspects and short-comings, Jordan holds promise and faces challenges which require the infusion of dynamism to help it move forward in order to surmount present but temporary difficulties, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday.

In a lecture at the Armed Forces Staff College south of Amman, the Crown Prince said: "We are now undergoing a phase of total change and one feels with one's heart that our society is moving towards a new horizon with better days to come."

Outlining the challenges that confront Jordan, Prince Hassan said that foremost of these stands the need to change social and economic behavioural patterns along with the imperatives of repaying the Kingdom's external debts and reducing budgetary de-

ficits.

"To face the challenge to revitalise the economy we need an impetus not dependent on petrodollars but on our own capabilities, energy, and potential," he said. "Another challenge is whether Jordan will be able to maintain its domestic and external balance and continue to honour its commitments."

"A further challenge confronting Jordan is the extremist trends in the society while building a healthy pluralism." In this regard, the Crown Prince said, Jordanian youth "have a role to play since they form the majority and it is in their name that the extremists speak as evident in the current election campaign."

The scarcity of some basic resources constitutes another major challenge, which if we fail to meet, will lead to the harshest of realities," the Crown Prince said



HRH Crown Prince Hassan giving as an example the two most important resources: water and energy.

Jordan, Prince Hassan said, will need twice as much water by the year 2000 as it does today; and three times as much energy

as it uses at present.

"Yet, in spite of all these challenges, and in fact because of them, opportunities are many to meet the challenges and put them to our advantage," he said. "Jordan enjoys a wealth experience with a long list of achievements to its credit. As a balanced moderate and young nation, it enjoys a distinguished position on Arab, Islamic, and international levels. It has confronted many crises in the past and came out even stronger after each confrontation."

"Jordan's Hashemite leadership maintained its dignity and tolerance, abstaining from oppression and injustice. With its educated citizens and its sizeable infrastructure it stands to reap future benefits and rewards from untapped potentials in tourism, mining, increased agriculture, industry, and further investment in its strategic position."

3 killed in Gaza, W. Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Unknown assailants killed two alleged collaborators with Israel and stabbed to death a 50-year-old woman accused of acting against the Palestinian uprising by dealing in prostitution, reports said Wednesday.

As police found the body of one victim in an abandoned car, masked youths appeared on a nearby hill and shouted slogans. The deaths raised to 135 the number of Palestinians killed by unknown peoples as suspected collaborators, or as drug dealers or prostitutes, during the 22-month Palestinian uprising.

In Tel Aviv, judges sentenced a 26-year-old Palestinian to life in prison, plus 20 years, for allegedly killing an Israeli construction worker and trying to career a crowded public bus into a steep ravine last month.

The sentence means he will have to spend at least 40 years in prison.

Police reported Arabs on horseback attacked Jewish-owned cars around the city of Akko. Army radio reported several horsemen smashed car windshields with stones and then galloped off.

Police said they apprehended one of the horsemen, returning his horse to his family.

Just north of the Gaza Strip, police found the body of a supposed collaborator, Fayez Mohammad Sahlawi, 29, in a car trunk. They said initial investigation indicated he was shot to death.

In the Mughazi refugee camp in Gaza, masked youths stabbed and beat to death Fayza Abdul Salam, 50, reporters said. She died at Ahli Arab hospital in Gaza City.

She was accused of dealing in prostitution, the reports said. Fundamentalists have killed several pimps, prostitutes and drug dealers during the uprising.

In the West Bank, eight masked men kidnapped Salah Abu Al Wafa, 38, from his house in the northern town of Jenin Tuesday night and then axed him to death, town residents told reporters.

The residents said Wafa was accused of working with the Israeli intelligence agents and dealing in drugs. Witnesses said his bloody body, clothed only in undershorts, was dumped near his house.

Demand for probe

Israeli legislator demanded Wednesday that Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin investigate charges that a Palestinian human rights worker was beaten in prison.

Lebanese Front accepts Arab plan; Aoun's isolation deepens

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's largest Christian militia and political parties Wednesday endorsed army chief General Michel Aoun by supporting a pact to end 14 years of civil war.

The move by the right-wing Lebanese Front further isolated Aoun and his supporters who reject the Arab League peace plan agreed by 58 Muslim and Christian deputies in Taif, Saudi Arabia.

Aoun renewed his call on the legislators Wednesday to reject the peace plan, but his unbridled hostility left him politically isolated even in his Christian camp.

Fearing Aoun's wrath might land them in jail, some Christian parliament members delayed their return to Beirut from Saudi Arabia.

The Lebanese Front urged Legation leaders "to treat the Arab and international resolutions with flexibility in order to take advantage of their positive elements and limit their negative effects."

It said in a statement the Taif accord could "end all occupations, stop Syria's exclusive hold on Lebanon's fate and ensure all guarantees for the crusade of liberation, reconciliation and peace."

Aoun, who demands a swift timetable for total Syrian with-

drawal, repeated his rejection of the accord, describing it as an "unforgivable crime." The plan delays a final decision on Syrian troops until two years after political reform.

Aoun, addressing about 2,800 students who visited his shell-blasted palace in east Beirut in a show of support, said: "They (the deputies) should follow the right path and return to consciousness because your (the people's) punishment will be severe."

Aoun's supporters have threatened to kill Christian deputies when they return to Beirut but Aoun has offered to protect them.

In Saudi Arabia, the deputies opened a diplomatic offensive to bolster support for their plan, which has received wide Western and Arab backing as the best chance to end the war.

Six Christian members of parliament flew to Rome to seek Vatican backing and meet Patriarch Nasrallah Bustros Steir, the leader of Lebanon's Christian Maronite community and a supporter of the pact.

A leading deputy, who did not want to be identified, told Reuters parliament would meet in Beirut to elect a new speaker and head of state by Nov. 7, as called for in the Arab plan.

Baker advises Israel not to seek proposal changes

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker advised Israel Wednesday against trying to change his five-point plan for Israeli-Palestinian talks, saying this risked straining the initiative with details.

Israel has asked for what it describes as minor changes to the plan, which aims to get Palestinians and Israelis around a bargaining table to organise elections in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Many analysts say, however, that the points are small but crucial.

Baker said at a news conference that he would review the proposed changes but added:

"If we start making changes for one side, we will find ourselves in an extended negotiating session in terms of making changes that might be requested, for instance, by Egypt."

"It would be much better if both sides would accept the five points as a general framework for moving forward, and then let's get about the business, the hard nitty-gritty business of sitting down face to face," he said.

Israel wants to exclude Palestinian leaders it was expelled from

the occupied territories from the Palestinian negotiating team. It says this would minimise the influence of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

It has also demanded assurances that the talks be limited to technical arrangements for elections and stop clear of other substantive issues on the future of the territories.

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said in an interview Wednesday: "The Americans claim Mr. Baker's five points are meant to implement the Israeli government's 'peace' initiative... and that is why I expect they will also be ready to accept some changes that are minor but meaningful."

Baker proposed his five points earlier this month when Israel's inner cabinet rejected a 10-point blueprint proposed by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

After two weeks of intensive telephone contacts with Israel and Egypt, senior U.S. officials said last week Baker was almost ready to write the effort off.

On Wednesday, he insisted there was still life in it but said he could not be any more optimistic

than he was a month ago.

"I don't think we could say that it's a probability that we'll be able to put a dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians together," he said.

Israeli sources have said a White House meeting between the Israeli leader and President George Bush Nov. 15 might not take place if the U.S. effort was thwarted.

A majority of legislators from the coalition Labour Party, including two cabinet ministers, absented themselves from no-confidence motions Tuesday to express frustration at what they call Shamir's foot-dragging.

Israeli radio said Energy Minister Moshe Shalev and Minister-without-portfolio Rafi Edri boycotted the vote.

Political sources said the vote did not endanger the "national unity" government, which defeated the opposition motions comfortably.

But they said it indicated Labour leaders would come under increasing grassroots pressure to quit the government if Shamir returned from the United States without an agreement.

New East German leader offers talks with opposition

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — Communist Party leader Egon Krenz, facing East Germany's worst unrest in 36 years, said Wednesday he was ready to talk to opposition groups provided that they respected the state constitution.

"Let's get rid of this idea of opposition. Let's say that there are in the German Democratic Republic (DDR) citizens who have ideas about how we can go forward in this country," Krenz said.

Speaking to reporters after meeting Wolfgang Mischnik, a senior member of West Germany's Free Democratic Party, he said: "Every idea is needed and no-one is excluded from an exchange of ideas, if they stand by the East German constitution."

Asked specifically if he would talk to members of the 26,000-strong New Forum, the largest

opposition group, Krenz replied: "I include all citizens of the German Democratic Republic, all citizens. No one is excluded."

A state-run newspaper said Wednesday that governmental neglect may have sparked mass demonstrations in Leipzig, while Communist Party leaders indicated all East Germans will soon have the right to visit the West.

Pro-democracy demonstrations took place the day before in East Berlin and Dresden.

The ruling politburo's promise to offer passports to all citizens and remove obstacles that have limited travel to the West address one of the most bitter complaints raised by ordinary East Germans.

The official ADN news agency reported late Tuesday that a meeting of the 21-member ruling body had endorsed a proposal to greatly ease foreign travel restraints, and predicted that the

relaxed policy would be in force by the end of the year.

It said the new law would drop requirements that family members stay behind as insurance that the travellers will return from the West, and that there would no longer have to be verifiable "grounds" to travel abroad, such as family visits or business contacts.

Any new legislation would have to be approved by the policy-making party central committee and the 500-member people's chamber, the nominal parliament. But as those bodies routinely support all politburo proposals, eventual enactment was virtually assured.

On Wednesday, the state-run National Zeitung newspaper offered a critical examination of why so many East Germans in Leipzig have been demonstrating on Monday nights.

NATO welcomes Soviet promises but wants more in nuclear cuts

VILAMOURA, Portugal (Agencies) — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) defence ministers Wednesday welcomed the Soviet Union's promises to cut its powerful military forces, but urged the Kremlin to do more to slash its stockpiles of tactical nuclear weapons.

The NATO ministers also applauded in their final statement Moscow's pledge to remove a disputed radar station in Siberia.

Wrapping up two days of nuclear strategy talks on the southern Portuguese coast, the officials said they "looked forward to the prompt and full implementation of this commitment."

After the meeting, U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney was scheduled to fly to London for discussions with British officials on the European leg of a three-week foreign tour.

In the final statement, the NATO defence ministers said they "were encouraged by the changes underway in the Soviet Union and some of its allies."

"Nevertheless, we recognised the continuing capability of the forces of the Warsaw Pact for offensive military action," it said.

The statement expressed concern about "substantial capabilities" in Moscow's space programme and its nuclear modernisation programme.

"We welcomed the announced Warsaw Pact unilateral force reductions and looked forward to their full implementation," the statement said.

However, the ministers said the cuts "would have little effect on the Warsaw Pact's nuclear capability and, in particular, on their continuing massive superiority in short-range nuclear missile systems."

"We therefore called again on the Soviet Union to reduce unilaterally its short-range missile systems to current NATO levels," the statement said.

The ministers also gave the go-ahead for top aides to study the Western alliance's nuclear needs in an era of reduced tensions.

Soviet pledge

Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov has disclosed plans to cut Soviet tank production by half over the next five years, bringing output closer to that of the United States, the Washington Post reported Wednesday.

The Post, quoting unnamed defence officials, said Yazov told Secretary Cheney of the plan at their meetings at the Pentagon earlier this month.

NATO leaders have long decried the Soviet advantage in tanks in Europe, saying this complicated East-West relations.

Gorbachev in Finland

HELSINKI (Agencies) — President Mikhail Gorbachev arrived in Finland Wednesday for a three-day official visit expected to focus on the special relationship and economic ties between the Soviet Union and its Baltic neighbours.

Gorbachev, welcomed at Helsinki airport by Finnish President Mauno Koivisto, left behind him signs of growing industrial unrest and political challenges.

Miners in the Arctic city of Vorkuta were voting on whether to stage a 24-hour strike and Tuesday deputies in the Soviet parliament voted to scrap seats reserved for the Communist Party and other public organisations.

Officials say the visit, Gorbachev's first to Finland, is expected to lead to about 30 new agreements on trade, the environment and political issues.

"The Soviet Union hopes that this dialogue will help raise good relations between Finland and the Soviet Union to a higher level," the official TASS news agency said.

Gorbachev, accompanied by his wife Raisa, was given a red-carpet airport welcome by Koivisto and was driven under overcast skies to the waterfront presidential residence in downtown Helsinki for a first round of talks.

Gorbachev, whose economic reforms need an infusion of Western technology and business experience, plans to sign a five-year overall trade agreement with Finland and several specific accords for new joint businesses.

One agreement will lay the groundwork for new industries in the Kola peninsula, which until recently was a closed military area. It is the home of the Soviet northern fleet and the base for the country's northern defences.

Among the Gorbachev entourage was Vaino Vyalys, the Communist Party chief of Estonia, reflecting recognition of the special relationship between the Finns and the culturally related people of the Baltic republic across the Gulf of Finland.

'Kuwait unlikely to bow to kidnappers' demand'

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait is unlikely to bend to demands by a Lebanese group holding two American hostages that it should free 15 jailed Shi'ite Muslims, diplomats said Wednesday.

"I would be astonished if Kuwait made any changes in its policy," a Western diplomat said. "They are very firm on that point."

The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (holy war) said in a typewritten statement delivered to an international news agency in Beirut Tuesday that it would not release two Americans it seized four years ago unless Kuwait released the 15 Shi'ites.

"There will be no solution to this issue if these demands are not met," said the four-page statement in Arabic accompanied by a photograph of hostage Terry

Anderson. The group also says it holding Thomas Sutherland, dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut (AUB).

The 15 jailed Shi'ites are among 17 people convicted of involvement in 1983 blasts in Kuwait that tore through the French and U.S. embassies, Kuwait International Airport and government installations, killing 10 people and wounding 66.

They were given sentences ranging from five years to death, but the executions were never carried out and two of the prisoners were released last year. "In the beginning, when the

hostages were first seized, they were linked very closely to the Kuwaiti prisoners," said the diplomat. "They are now only reaffirming this."

In the last few years extremists trying to gain release of the prisoners have launched a series of attacks on Kuwaiti interests, including the hijacking of Kuwaiti airliner to Iran, Cyprus and Algeria in 1983 and an earlier hijacking to Tehran in which two American passengers were killed.

Kuwait has steadfastly refused to bow to their demands.

The pro-Iranian group said: "We renew our firm stand for the necessity of releasing our struggling brothers from the jails of the Kuwaiti regime. Our just demands are now clear regarding the release of the detainees held by us."

Israel must pull out of Lebanon — Fahd

NICOSIA (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia said Israel must withdraw from its self-proclaimed security zone in South Lebanon as a condition for a full settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

"How can Lebanon return as it was while Israel is present in Lebanese territory?" the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) late Tuesday quoted King Fahd as asking Lebanese parliamentarians in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The Lebanese deputies earlier approved a plan to end their country's 14-year-old civil war by giving the Muslim majority more power in the Christian-dominated political system and calling for a limited Syrian troop withdrawal.

But Israel's presence in Lebanon is a major stumbling block to achieving a permanent settlement of the crisis, with Syria unwilling to commit itself to a full withdrawal while Israeli troops are still deployed there.

The Jewish state occupies a 10-kilometre wide strip of South Lebanon to prevent attacks by Palestinians and Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims across its northern border.

"Israel must pull out completely from Lebanon so that the Lebanese people live freely in their territory from the north to the south and from the east to the west," SPA, received in Nicosia, quoted King Fahd as saying.

Israel has said it will withdraw from Lebanon when a stable government in Beirut can stop cross-border attacks.

King Fahd said Saudi Arabia would do all it could to ensure that the political reforms agreed by the deputies were implemented.

"... Saudi Arabia will always be with you (the Lebanese) in all matters," he said.

Qadhafi wants better relations with U.S.

CAIRO (AP) — Libya's Muammar Qadhafi has admitted for the first time that he sponsored international terrorism but said he stopped when he discovered the terrorists were working for themselves and not the Arab nation.

He also told Cairo's state-owned weekly magazine Al-Mussawwar, published Wednesday, that he wants no confrontation with the United States and would welcome a dialogue toward friendly relations.

Al-Mussawwar said the interview was conducted a week ago, one day after Qadhafi met with President Hosni Mubarak in Tobruk on Libya's Mediterranean coast to discuss improving relations after 16 years of friction.

Qadhafi spoke about a reversal in his policy toward terrorism in reply to a question suggesting that support of "groups that practice terror in the name of revolutionary violence" may have harmed Libya.

"At one point, we supported some of these groups without meticulously examining their aims and role," he told Al-Mussawwar editor Mahmud Muhammad Ahmad.

"But when we discovered that these groups were causing more harm than benefit to the Arab cause, we halted our aid to them completely and withdrew our support."

Sounding apologetic, Qadhafi added: "We erroneously thought that these groups could be part of the (Arab) national liberation movement. But we found out that they were practicing terrorism for the sake of terrorism and for other objectives that had nothing to do with our national cause."

Qadhafi, a disciple of the late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser and the main current proponent of Nasser's ideas on Arab unity, did not say what terror groups he had in mind. One of them is known to be the Fateh Revolutionary Council, a dissident Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal, whose real name is

Sabry Al Banna.

In the past, Qadhafi insisted he helped only national liberation movements.

"Let me tell you frankly that hijacking planes and killing civilians are acts of murder that have nothing to do with combat," Qadhafi said. "Libya should not be called to account for any of these acts, because we have withdrawn our support of such groups."

Qadhafi's sponsorship of international terrorism was the principal cause of his rift with the United States. In September 1987, U.S. officials presented to the United Nations a selected chronology specifying 60 cases of what it termed Libya's terrorism and support for various terrorist groups.

U.S. warplanes raided two Libyan cities, the capital Tripoli and the Mediterranean port of Benghazi, in April 1986, 10 days after Libya was blamed for masterminding the bombing of a discotheque in West Berlin frequented by U.S. servicemen.

An American soldier and a woman died, and 200 people were wounded.

In the interview, Qadhafi seemed to be telling the Americans he wants bygones to be bygones.

He said he would welcome a dialogue with the Americans "anywhere they want on condition it is held in the public eye."

"I say very clearly: We do not believe that conflict with the United States is necessary. We believe that many of the problems between us can be solved at the negotiating table. We are prepared for relations based on mutual respect and common interests. We harbour no hatred for the American people, and we also believe that the American people have no such feeling for us."

He blamed former U.S. President Ronald Reagan's "muscle-flexing" for complications in American-Libyan relations.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

2 UAE teenagers get 550 lashes

ABU DHABI (R) — Two Arab teenagers are to be publicly flogged every Friday for the next three months after each being sentenced to 550 lashes for theft. A court official in Khos Fakkan, near Sharjah, in the UAE, said Wednesday the two, aged 16 and 18, had been jailed for 17 months in addition to the flogging. "Each will be flogged 40 times in public every Friday after the prayers," he said, adding that the teenagers had pleaded guilty to a string of thefts.

Shi'ite gunmen die in Beirut clash

BEIRUT (R) — Two Shi'ite Muslim gunmen were killed in a clash between the pro-Iranian Hizbollah and the Amal militia on the road to Beirut's newly-reopened airport Wednesday, security sources said. They said three fighters of the fundamentalist Hizbollah (Party of God) exchanged machinegun fire with militiamen of the Amal group, who were travelling in a car on the Syrian-policed road to the airport through Beirut's southern suburbs. The sources said one of the Hizbollah fighters was killed and the other wounded. An Amal fighter also died. A Hizbollah spokesman denied one of its members was killed but said two were wounded. An Amal spokesman confirmed the death of one of his group's gunmen.

Court asks for Reagan papers

WASHINGTON (R) — Former President Ronald Reagan will have to turn over his private notes and diaries on the Iran-contra scandal for the trial of his National Security Adviser John Poindexter, a judge has ruled. U.S. District Judge Harold Greene said he would allow the defence to subpoena Reagan's personal papers as part of its effort to prove that he knew and approved of Poindexter's activities. However, Greene rejected a defence request to subpoena President George Bush's personal notes because Bush, then vice president, had no operational authority over Poindexter and could not authorise his activities. The judge said Poindexter's attorneys could later renew the subpoena request for Bush's notes if they could show a more pressing need for the documents as a defence against the criminal charges. Poindexter's attorneys said they wanted the notes of meetings with Bush because they said Poindexter always briefed him whenever the vice president missed a White House meeting during which Iran-contra activities were discussed.

Libyans arrive in Naples

NAPLES, Italy (R) — A black-draped cruise liner sailed into Naples Wednesday bringing 800 Libyans threatening vengeance if Italy refuses to pay compensation for more than 30 years of colonial rule. Another 250 Libyans are already in Italy to stage a day of mourning for victims of Italy's colonial rule between 1911 and 1943 when Tripoli was Rome kidnapped 5,000 Libyans and deported them as forced labour. Libya's powerful Revolutionary Committees Monday threatened revenge attacks on Italians and Italian property if Rome did not pay compensation. But officials in Rome say the issue is closed and was legally resolved by a settlement between Italy and the monarchy of King Idris, deposed by Colonel Muammar Qadhafi in 1969.

Afghan rebels denounce peace group

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan rebels refused Wednesday to deal with an independent peace group formed in Kabul to mediate with the Soviet-backed regime and reported gains in their war with the Moscow-installed government.

Rebel government Information Minister Najibullah Lafraie told reporters the newly formed National Salvation Society, comprising 15 prominent Afghans, was a Soviet plot and said Mujahideen guerrillas would not negotiate with it.

The group said in Kabul Sunday it aimed to act as "honest brokers" between the government and the rebels in a bid to end the 11-year conflict that has left an estimated 1.3 million Afghans dead.

Lafraie said the group was not independent, although "some names respected in the past" were associated with it, and added that Kabul would use the body for propaganda purposes.

"They (the Kabul authorities) want to defame these old men. We want them (the society members) to dissociate from this mischievous plot," Lafraie said.

The society includes two retired generals and several Afghans who served as government ministers before the 1978 Communist takeover.

The group is apparently anxious to distance itself from the government, which lacks credibility in the eyes of many Afghans and whose peace offers have been rejected by the Western-backed guerrillas based in Pakistan.

Lafraie also said the rebels last week forced a big government resupply convoy headed for the besieged eastern garrison town of Khosht in Paktia province to retreat. The tank-led caravan pulled back toward Kabul after suffering heavy casualties and other losses.

Lafraie said the convoy numbered 700 vehicles. Western di-

plomats in Islamabad put the number at nearer 200.

He said the Mujahideen destroyed four warplanes in a rocket attack on the Bagram Airbase north of Kabul Friday and the next day captured a government base at Surkatal in the eastern province of Ghazni, killing 280 militiamen.

China has cut its arms supplies to Afghan guerrillas and slowly is normalising relations with Kabul's Soviet-backed government, Chinese and other Asian diplomats said Tuesday.

The main reasons for Peking's move, the diplomats said, are the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and China's efforts to cement ties with Socialist countries and end the isolation that followed its crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in June.

A Kabul-based Chinese diplomat said Peking has started trading with Afghanistan and generally supports President Najibullah's attempts to unite the country.

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Jordan Times'
JORDAN MARKET PLACE

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Tel. 773111-19
PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
17:00 Hit Squad
18:00 News for the Deaf
18:20 Religious programme
19:15 Health programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Arab film
PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Le Monde Est a vous
19:00 News in French
19:15 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Guinness Record
21:10 Max Headroom
21:40 News in English
22:20 Feature film "Between Two Brothers"

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622566
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 812951, 683236
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 812951
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932
WEATHER
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
The country will be under the effect of unstable weather conditions. Thus it will be partly cloudy and drop in temperatures is expected and there will be a chance for local showers of rain. Winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.
Min./max. temp.
Amman 13 / 21
Aqaba 16 / 27
Deraia 14 / 25
Jordan Valley 15 / 28
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22, Aqaba 28. Humidity readings: Amman 48 per cent, Aqaba 41 per cent.
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammed Imran 639999
Dr. Anjad Nawras 781806

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR
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Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Radio Jordan 771111
Jordan Television 771111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 06-53230
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53230
HOSPITALS
AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Al-Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642502
Malhas, J. Amman 630140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664714
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845945
Al-Muhammar Hospital 657279
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhammar 77101/3
Al-Basir, J. Ashrafich 771111/26
Army, Marjeh 891617/5
Queen Alia Hospital 6224030
Amal Hospital 674153
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983233
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
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Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Civil Defence Emergency 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 890390
Public Security Department 630321
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Price Compliments 661776
Water and Sewerage 661776
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information

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ARRIVALS
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:00 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:00 Damascus (RJ)
06:20 New Delhi (RJ)
09:00 Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
09:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:15 Cairo, Amman (RJ)
10:15 London (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
18:30 Bangkok (RJ)
19:45 Rome (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Paris (RJ)
12:30 Amman, Cairo (RJ)
12:30 Larnaca (RJ)
19:40 Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:15 Bangkok (RJ)
20:20 Cairo (RJ)
20:45 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
21:15 Bangkok (RJ)
DEPARTURES
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
10:45 Damascus (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Paris (RJ)
12:30 Amman, Cairo (RJ)
12:30 Larnaca (RJ)
19:40 Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:15 Bangkok (RJ)
20:20 Cairo (RJ)
20:45 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
21:15 Bangkok (RJ)

FOR FRIDAY
JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 773111-19
PROGRAMME ONE
10:00 Koran
10:15 Children programme
12:00 Religious programme
12:30 Friday's prayer
12:30 Sports programme
14:00 Religious seminar
14:00 Feature film
15:00 Message from Queen
18:10 Local programme
19:00 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local programme
21:00 Arabic series
21:00 Local programme
22:00 New comedy in Arabic
23:10 Programme contd.
PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 French play
18:00 News in French
19:00 Documentary
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Mr. Belvedere
21:10 Murder She Wrote
21:40 News in English
22:00 Calypso
23:10 Theme's Company
MARKET PRICES
Upper/lower price in lbs per kg.
Apple (golden) 420 / 380
Apple (red) 550 / 500
Banana 450 / 400
Banana (Mukammal) 400 / 350
Beans 600 / 500
Cabbage 180 / 120
Carrot 350 / 300
Cauliflower 250 / 200
Corn 220 / 200
Cucumbers (large) 180 / 120
Cucumbers (small) 400 / 350
Eggplant 210 / 170
Garlic 900 / 800
Grapefruit 220 / 180
Grapes 450 / 400
Grapes (black) 450 / 400
Onion 400 / 350
Lemon 160 / 120
Mallow 200 / 150
Marrow (large) 150 / 100
Marrow (small) 270 / 220
Okra 300 / 250
Onion (dry) 550 / 470
Orange 450 / 380
Pepper (hot) 180 / 150
Pepper (sweet) 180 / 150
Pineapple 350 / 300
Potato 300 / 250
Sage 600 / 550
Spinach 280 / 220
Tomatoes 210 / 170
Water Melon 200 / 170
PRAYER TIMES
06:25 Fajr
05:43 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:20 Dhuhr
14:28 'Asr
16:55 Maghreb
18:14 'Isha

758,233 voter cards collected

AMMAN (J.T.) — The total number of voting cards delivered to voters Wednesday reached 758,233 out of a total of 1,020,475 cards (74.30 per cent), an Interior Ministry official said.

The official expressed hope that the remaining cards would be delivered within the allowed remaining days. The deadline for delivery of voter cards expires Oct. 31.

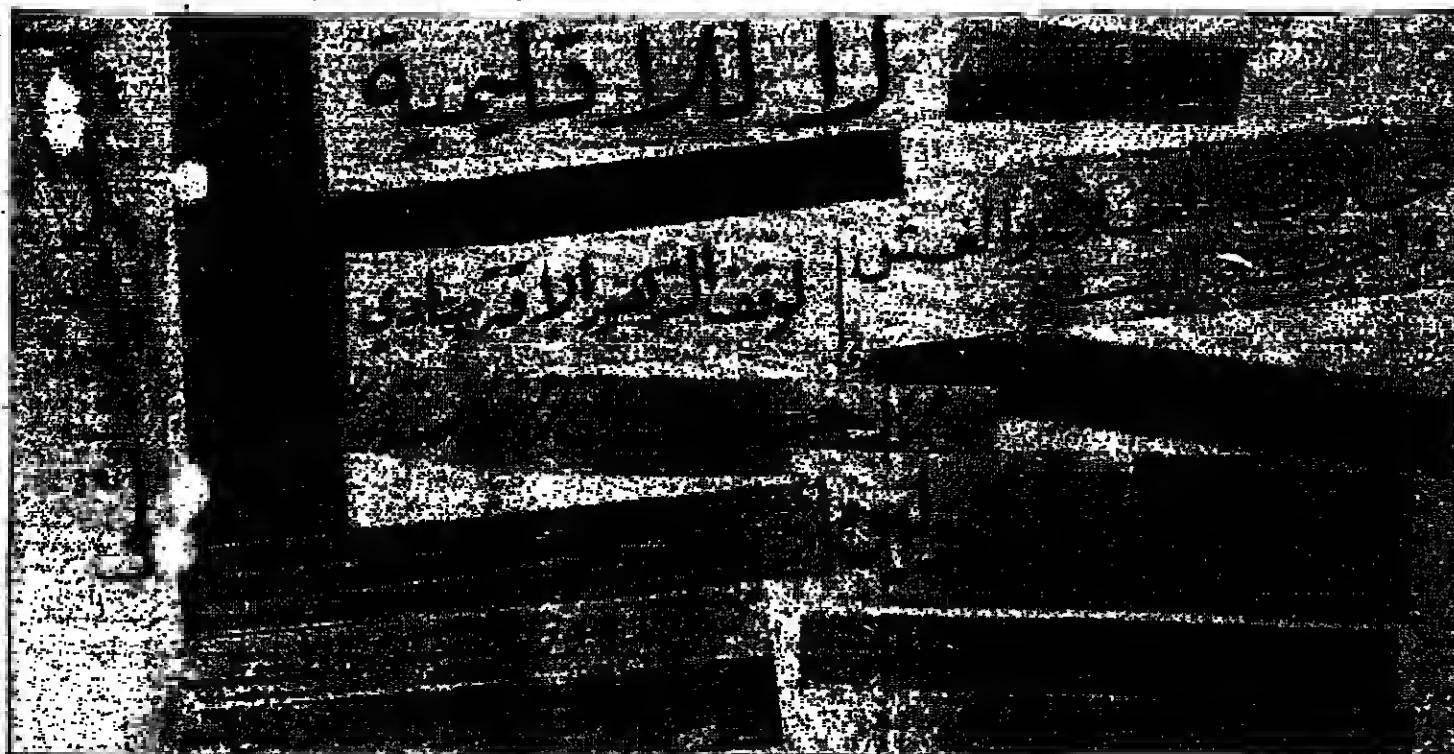
In other governorates and districts, the number of cards delivered increased drastically in Irbid constituency 80 per cent of the cards were delivered; Ramtha and Bani Kinana constituency 96.2 per cent; Jerash constituency 88.4 per cent; Ajloun constituency 82.7 per cent; Koura and North Ghor constituency; 94 per cent, according to the official.

North Ghor District Governor Khalaf Mahasneh said Wednesday that the district constituency had been divided into 23 voting areas covering 90 polling centres. The North Shuna School for Girls has been chosen as a centre for counting the votes.

Ma'an Governor 'Id Qataneh Wednesday discussed with candidates from the Ma'an and South Bedouin constituencies election arrangements. Al Marigha School was chosen as the centre for counting the votes in the governorate.

Al Qoura district has finished all the arrangements for Kufir Abil municipal council elections scheduled to take place Saturday.

Aref Abu Karaki, the district governor and chairman of the elections committee, said that four polling centres were assigned and four committees were appointed for counting votes. Twelve candidates and 1,448 voters involved in the elections.



Bid for power has expensive price tag

By Suhair Obaidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Political platforms, promises, slogans and approval of candidacy from the government are not the only requirements for an aspirant to the Lower House of Parliament; it also takes money.

Ranging from JD 3,000 to as much as JD 40,000 per candidate, campaign expenses for the Nov. 8 elections have brought out what economists would describe as "distribution of wealth" among the Jordanian public.

A conservative estimate puts the total amount of money spent on election posters, cards, banners, newspaper advertisements and leaflets by the 650 odd candidates at JD 4 million; that is, not to mention the expenses incurred by the government on items such as ballot papers and related paraphernalia.

"Definitely it is not by rubbing a magical ring or lamp that these things materialise, but by heavy spending of real money," noted an observer. A quick price-survey in town showed that the price of each metre of a banner is JD 2.50; so an average banner costs about JD 15 if not more. Every 5,000 visiting cards (with a coloured picture) cost JD 150; every 1,000 posters (30 centimetres by 40 centimetres) cost JD 210; and smaller ones (17.5 by 25) cost JD 90.

One of the women candidates said that although she does not believe in unnecessary expenses, she had allocated JD 3,000 for her election campaign since it is a "must." But she added that "the fact remains that as a woman I have to economise as I do not have control over the money; that is why men candidates tend to spend a lot more."

A candidate in the Balqa district said: "Running in this district does not in any way exhaust less than JD 40,000." He said that he expected to spend "a lot more, especially on the day of the elections because I have to provide transportation for people to come to the voting centres to vote."

The same candidate is said to be offering JD 25 for each family registration book, "which is the legal document needed by voters to be able to vote in addition to the voter card issued by the authorities."

A candidate running in the Ma'an governorate said he had allocated nearly JD 8,000. "It is a wide area and most of the expenses will be on transportation on the day of the elections," he said.

Newspapers are having a field day, devoting the lion's share of advertisement. According to well informed sources a medium-sized platform ad costs around JD 250. "At the same price I printed thousands of leaflets," said a candidate.

Arabic newspapers are carrying almost 50 per cent of their contents in election ads.

One of the 55 candidates in the Third District said he budgeted JD 20,000 but did not have a definite figure on how much it will cost in the end of the "harrowing" race. "It is like drowning; once you start, you never know when and where you will end," he said.

Besides getting a free ride to and fro the voting centres, "loyal" followers are also getting a free meal, usually from more than one candidate. As one candidate eloquently put it, "the way to a doubtful citizen's vote is through his dedicated stomach."

Mansaf, a traditional dish of rice, meat and yoghurt, is usually what is found on the single-choice menu at the candidates' table. A home-made mansaf costs an average of JD 40 to JD 50 depending on its size and quantity of meat, while a ready-made mansaf from one of the restaurants costs about JD 50 to JD 70.

But contrary to dietary-talk and huge banquets, a financial manager at a prominent restaurant completely denied the alleged reports.

"The candidates are really tightwads," he said. "We are not getting any orders of significance. But maybe things will change during the last week before the elections when it heats up and they start throwing lunch and

dinner parties."

A candidate "with limited financial resources," is substituting rice and meat with foul and hummus. "I do not think that you will find another candidate as broke as I am, but I am counting on my family and friends who are helping me in any way they can," he said.

A candidate from a well-known "wealthy" family groaned that he has a big hole in his pocket and he has not even tried to allocate a budget for his campaign. He too is counting on his family and friends for their moral and more importantly their financial support.

A female candidate from the Fifth District apologised to her constituency in a local newspaper for not having enough money to publish her platform. This has gained her a great deal of support from voters who do not consider money a prerequisite for a Parliament seat.

The stories are endless and the candidates continue to fight nail and tooth over the Lower House of Parliament that can accommodate only 80 deputies. The "official" spending which was triggered at the chime of 12 p.m. Oct. 14 is definitely not going to come to an abrupt end Nov. 8.

Celebrations, feasts and banquets will occupy a considerable time of both the candidates and voters' time and stomachs after the results are announced.

Authorities outline measures covering chemicals transport

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian laws prohibit the transportation of chemical or dangerous materials on the Kingdom's roads and highways without specific instructions on handling such substances, according to Deputy-Director General of the Civil Defence Department (CDD) Colonel Deeb Maani.

"Jordanian laws also prohibit entry of any chemical substances without accompanying documents giving instructions specifying ways of handling the material," Maani said at a general meeting with representatives of Jordanian transporters of chemical products.

He said that the CDD regulations specifically state that transportation of chemical and hazardous materials should be carried out with full coordination with the CDD offices around the country. Maani referred to a Council of Ministers' order on such operations and added that a

circular on the transportation of dangerous chemicals had been issued to all government departments and municipal councils in the Kingdom.

Concerning chemical products in transit through Jordan, Maani said that customs and border authorities deal with such operations.

Maani warned that violators of the law will be prosecuted and said that companies dealing with chemicals should immediately report any leakage on the road or in their premises so that speedy measures can be taken to deal with the situation.

Maani announced the formation of a special committee grouping representatives of various companies and the CDD to organise procedures to be followed to ensure safety.

Last month, a leak of poisonous chlorine gas from a chemical plant in Zarqa affected at least 129 persons and alerted the au-

thorities to the need to improve efforts to ensure public safety.

The leak was at the Jordan Chemical Industries Company plant which produced chloride, part of which is used to manufacture detergents in the plant and the rest distributed to other organisations.

According to CDD sources the plant did not apply public safety measures and failed to provide masks and protective devices to the workers. The plant is located in the centre of a heavily populated area with many factories that are located close to one another.

In March this year, Jordan, along with various other countries, signed an agreement in Basel, Switzerland known as "the International Agreement on the Trans-Boundary Movement of Perilous Waste." The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) sponsored the agreement.

Experts gather to discuss wide range of measures

Conference highlights need to address cardiac diseases

AMMAN (J.T.) — Tuberculosis and diseases resulting from smoking, which are very common in Jordan, a top item in a host of topics to be tackled by a three-day conference on chest diseases and thoracic surgery which opened here Wednesday.

Some 300 delegates from Arab and foreign countries gathered at the opening session of the conference, which was addressed by experts underlining the importance of the topics and urging cooperation among various concerned organisations to provide better service to the public.

Dr. Mislch Tarawneh, dean of the University of Jordan's Faculty of Medicine, delivered the opening speech on behalf of the university president noting that the gathering served as a good forum to review research and new trends and to exchange expertise related to health, chest treatment.

Tarawneh said that the outcome of the deliberations are bound to have a very beneficial effect on promoting medical and clinical services.

Dr. Nael Ajlouni, deputy director of the National Medical Institution (NMI), said the conference highlighted the scope of cooperation among health and educational institutions providing medical training.

Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) which sponsors medical care through its various branches in Jordan, also addressed the opening session praising the efforts of the NMI and the Ministry of Health in promoting health and medical services in Jordan.

Dr. Abdullah Qudrah, chairman of a committee that organised the conference, referred in a brief speech to the on-going coordination among medical specialists at Jordanian universities on the one hand and the NMI and the private sector on the other.

Among the 50 working papers to be reviewed at the conference 12 were prepared by Jordanian specialists in chest treatment, according to Qudrah. He said delegates from France, the United Kingdom, the United States, the

Netherlands, Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait in addition to Jordan are taking part in the meetings.

Heart and lung transplants, lung cancer and respiratory diseases are among the other topics which will be reviewed in the papers, according to Qudrah. Three American, British and French professors of Jordanian origin are among the participants who will also inspect medical equipment and appliances displayed at the University of Jordan throughout the duration of the conference and can watch documentary films, featuring medical themes and will tour a number of places of interest in the Kingdom, Qudrah added.

The conference has been organised by the Jordan Society for Chest Diseases in cooperation with the University of Jordan, the faculty of medicine at the Jordan University of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health, NMI and the private sector in Jordan.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES WALDHEIM: His Majesty King Hussein called congratulations Wednesday to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on his country's national day anniversary. The King wished the president continued good health and happiness and the Austrian people progress and prosperity. (Petra)

LAWZI MEETS BENGAL SPEAKER: Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi Wednesday received in his office the Speaker of legislative assembly of West Bengal state of India. Jordanian-Indian relations in all fields and the necessity of reaching a just and permanent peace in the Middle East were discussed by the two sides. Also discussed were parliamentary relations between the two countries. (Petra)

JORDAN-TUNIS COOPERATION: Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Imab and Tunisian Minister of Finance and Planning Mohammad Al Ghanoushi Wednesday reviewed means to develop mutual economic cooperation. The two officials reviewed mutual achievements attained in the field of trade and stressed keenness to bolster joint economic cooperation. Imab Wednesday attended the 47th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council which began its sessions in Tunis. (Petra)

SAKET VISITS VETERINARY CENTRE: Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saket Wednesday visited the veterinary centre at Qweisneh and discussed with specialists and officials matters related to the centre's operations. At a meeting later the minister underlined the importance of speeding up work on analysis and diagnosis of animal diseases and providing veterinary services to farmers.

ADC ANNULLED: The Cabinet, during a session held Tuesday, approved the annulment of the Amman Development Corporation (ADC) law whereby the ADC will be owned by Greater Amman Municipality, the Housing Bank, and the Jordan Investment Corporation. ADC employees will preserve their employment rights and work for these three institutions. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Foad Minal and 'Ammar Khammash at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "Discovered pictures in East Jerusalem" by Austrian artist Eva Patz at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Mohammad Al Qaddumi displaying oil and watercolor paintings depicting nature in Jordan, at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian plastic artist Basma Butouli at Alfa Art Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of modern American books which includes books on agriculture, engineering, medicine and other topics, at the University of Jordan.
- ★ Jordanian amateur artists exhibition at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "Scholars and Revolution" at the French Cultural Centre.

FILMS

- ★ An Italian film entitled "Papa sei una frama" at Haya Arts Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ A feature film entitled "Amadens" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

The female vote — mercurial element in Nov. 8 election

By John Rice
The Associated Press

AMMAN — The woman Nahed Shifa, garbed in a modest Muslim headscarf and a loose full-length dress, said she is ready to vote in next month's general election — the first in which Jordanian women will take part.

But what will determine her vote? "Of course my husband, because he is the man," she told a reporter who chatted with her on a busy Amman street festooned with banners for the Nov. 8 parliamentary election.

Such women have dampened the optimism of women's rights activists facing their first nationwide campaign.

"Sixty per cent of the women at least are not independent voters... they will be influenced by their husband, father or brother," said Laila Sharaf, a former minister of information who is one of only two women to have been cabinet ministers in Jordan's modern history.

Jordan gave women the right to vote in 1974, but no nationwide elections have taken place since 1967. Women have voted only in a few local elections to replace deputies who died or resigned.

This year several women are running for the 80 parliamentary seats and women are about half the one million registered voters.

"This is the first time we will have candidates discussing women and their rights," said Sharaf.

Some male candidates have targeted appeals to female voters: "Woman is half of society, she is the one who raises future generations," announced a banner hoisted by one man.

The election follows two decades of rapid educational changes for women.

When Jordanians last voted nationwide, only about a quarter of young women attended secondary school. Today the figure is about 80 per cent, and

many go on to universities or technical schools.

But conservative views of women mainly as homemakers remain deeply held — some rooted in religion and some in local traditions.

Many women still firmly adhere to a conservative vision of Islam.

"The world is the world of men, and they always believe the woman is only for the house," said Hafsa Bashir, head of the Jordanian Federation of Women and a candidate for parliament.

Women accounted for less than 15 per cent of the workforce in the mid-1980s, and activists say the number is declining because of economic difficulties and the tendency to drop women workers before men.

"Even now, when the family can't pay for all their children (to study), they prefer to let the boy continue his studies and not the girl," said Asma Khader, a leading human rights lawyer.

"They will not present the freedom to us," she added. "We must work for it."

Khader complained that Jordan's social security, insurance and pension laws grant more benefits to men than women, and that women cannot obtain a passport or get married without approval of male relatives.

Women married to foreign men cannot pass along Jordanian citizenship to their children. Criminal laws covering "crime of passion" are biased towards men.

While many of the laws are based on interpretations of Islam, the Kingdom's official religion, Bashir argues that they are misinterpretations. She said both the Koran and traditional Islamic law "gave rights to women 14 centuries ago better than what we are seeking now."

The debate flared into the press in September when a column defending women's rights in the daily newspaper Al Rai prompted a flood of complaints.

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Jordan Times

An Independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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Food for thought

THE BIRTH of the Western-styled Hungarian Republic is only the tip of the iceberg that has directly below the other European socialist countries belonging to the Eastern bloc. As the wind of change and reformation continues to sweep across Eastern Europe, more and more countries in that region are projected to follow the Hungarian example. There is no way to reverse the new order bursting in Eastern Europe as the new democratisation phenomenon picks up speed and consolidates its path. Poland is not so far away from achieving what Hungary has officially proclaimed and the list of Eastern European countries waiting to join the bandwagon gets longer by the day.

It may all have started in Moscow when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev unleashed his glasnost and perestroika genes and set in motion a chain reaction the like of which contemporary history has not seen or experienced. But to credit all the positive upheavals that have hit Eastern Europe to a single man would be tantamount to belittling the pent-up forces within Eastern Europe that were craving for reformation and enlightenment. It would be more correct to assess the Soviet initiative as part and parcel of the entire process that has swept through the socialist order in the Eastern bloc and that what has occurred is a historical development that was bound to occur sooner or later. In another words, the Soviet step may have served as the green light that triggered off the ensuing chain reaction, but it was certainly not the cause of it. It appears that the forces of democratisation are marching on everywhere and that there is no retreat from that trend during this juncture in human history. It was inevitable, therefore, that the cycle of democratisation would hit the developed socialist countries of Eastern Europe before it reaches other corners of the world. The socio-economic conditions there have for a long time been ripe for political development along the lines witnessed in Poland and Hungary. It was only natural that such developments occur there as most of these affected countries have had "western traditions" in parliamentary democracy.

What is even more important is that the political developments in Eastern Europe are destined to change the political landscape on the face of the earth and propel a realignment of axis of power on the international scene. In this process many countries or bloc of countries that enjoyed a unique strategic significance and were able to cash in on that proposition would suddenly find themselves stripped of their traditional clout and significance in international affairs. In due course the Middle East region which has hitherto enjoyed a coveted place in the East-West rivalry is projected to lose that remarkable and enviable place in the sun. This should give the Arab World in particular food for thought with a view to reviewing its relations, both economic and political, to the rest of the countries of the world. Above all, this evolutionary process that has crept into international relations should serve as an added impetus for the Arab countries to attain self-reliance and collective coordination and harmony more than ever before.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian Arabic dailies on Wednesday focused attention on the Fao peninsula where the heads of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries are meeting for the inauguration of the first phase of a reconstruction programme following the eight-year-old Iraqi-Iranian war.

Celebrations of this great event remind the Arab people of the huge and heavy sacrifices and heroic struggle of the Iraqi people to defend Arab soil throughout the war, Al Ra'i newspaper said. It is only natural that a celebration would take place in the Fao peninsula and in the presence of leaders whose countries extended support and backing to the Iraqi people during their fight against the enemies of the Arab Nation and the aggressors who had ambitions in Arab lands, the paper noted. The rebuilding of the Fao, the paper pointed out, is a sign of great victory for the Arab Nation's will and a recognition of the Iraqi armed forces' success in thwarting the enemy's plots. Moreover, it said, the celebration is a reminder for all nations that the ACC countries will stand together in war and peace, and will maintain solidarity under all circumstances.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily cast doubt about the effectiveness of the Saudi Arabian-sponsored agreement for ending the war in Lebanon, and says that there are no guarantees that conflicts would not flare up at any moment, since the Zionists and the Americans are still hatching plots against the Arabs in general and Lebanon in particular. Tareq Masarweh notes that the war in Lebanon did not aim to ensure the rights of all parties and communities, nor did it come about to adjust the balance of power, but rather it was the outcome of an international conspiracy which we discovered very late and could not stop. The war in Lebanon was designed by Henry Kissinger and the Zionists and was intended to blow up Lebanon with all its communities; and cause the country to disintegrate into cantons and mini-states and weak entities, the writer notes. This 15-year old war, he adds, was created by the Americans who hated to see Beirut a financial centre where petrodollars were stacked, and by the Zionists who wanted to pave the way for the 1982 invasion of Lebanon to strike at the Palestinian people and the PLO's military power, the writer concludes.

Al Dastour daily for its part said that the celebration at Fao is being held amid great rejoicing by the Arab masses everywhere. The Jordanian people are filled with pride at the successes of the Iraqi armed forces and share with the Iraqi people their great celebrations. Jordan and the rest of the Arab Nation consider the victory at Fao as a turning point in the war, marking the beginning of the great victory of the Iraqi armed forces who fought for eight years in defence of Arab soil, the paper said. The successes at Fao, the outbreak of the Palestinian intifada and the creation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) together marked the beginning of a pan-Arab awakening, and a starting point for resuming the Arab Nation's role among world nations, the paper said.

Weekly Political Pulse

'Lost opportunity'

THE COURTS of First Instance which ruled on the cases of Mashhoor Haditha, Trad Al Qadi, and Naeef Khreisha could not have handed down any decision different from the ones that they did. For although the legal issues presented by the three above-mentioned cases are profound and touch upon the constitutionality of certain provisions in the Election Law, the said courts have limited jurisdiction that does not reach the level of testing the constitutionality of a Jordanian law. Only the Supreme Court of Jordan has the jurisdiction to deal with constitutional issues; and by prescribing in the Election Law that no appeal can be submitted against any decision made by the Court of First Instance, the country was unfortunately deprived of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to adjudicate the many legal issues that can be found in the contested law. In other words, had the claimants had a real opportunity to argue their cases before the highest court of the land, the verdicts would make a very interesting legal reading and no doubt would have reversed the decisions of the Court of First Instance.

Still one can argue the cases of the trio academically. And as I read the cases at bar, they all raise the constitutionality of a Jordanian legislation that makes distinctions between Jordanians in general and Jordanians of bedouin origin, in addition to the distinctions between "urbanite" Jordanians as well. The only relevant comparisons that one can make in this context are with the laws of other lands in the world where special provisions are made for minorities like the Indians in the U.S. and Canada and the Aborigines in Australia and other parts of the world. In such situations it was often held in courts of law that it would not be against the constitutions of the land, that call for equality and

equal treatment among the citizens of such countries, to make separate and special provisions for such minorities in order to preserve their heritage and traditions. But even in such very limited situations, the highest courts of those affected countries were very careful in interpreting the special laws on their "minorities" as pertaining to Indians and Aborigines lest they be accused of fostering and promoting unlawful discrimination. In any case, and as the learned former judge Farouk Kilani has written a few days ago in Al Ra'i daily newspaper, neither the Constitution of 1952 nor the 1986 Election Law make any special reference to bedouins. As a point of law, lawyer Kilani was correct to point out that the 1952 Constitution deleted all previous references to minorities of any kind that were incorporated in the 1946 Constitution, thus signalling that representation of minorities is no longer tenable under the new constitution. Even the constitutionally-questionable 1986 Election Law makes no special reference to bedouins and only cites Christians, Shishans and Circassians as minorities that require special representation in the Lower House of the Parliament. And as mentioned earlier, these three categories of "minorities" under the 1986 Election Law are repugnant to the letter and spirit of the 1952 Constitution which purposely deleted references to such minorities.

Thus Jordanian jurisprudence was dealt a serious blow when the adjudication of the Haditha, Qadi and Khreisha cases were confined to the Court of First Instance without the right of appeal to the highest court of the land where the constitutionality of the 1986 Election Law could have been raised and argued. It appears that keeping the Supreme Court away from such cases was made

deliberate in order to avoid the consideration of the constitutionality of the Election Law itself. Under such circumstances, the Court of First Instance could only hand down a judgment on the basis of the Election Law without ever being able to entertain the possibility that the legality of that law was also at stake. Still, it would be an interesting legal issue to argue the legality of the provision of the Election Law that prohibits the right to appeal a ruling by a lower court to a higher court on a matter as grave and consequential as the one raised by Haditha, Al Qadi and Khreisha. There is no way that Jordanian jurisprudence would develop without the wealth of case law that could be generated by freeing the highest court of the land to hear cases touching on the constitutionality of various Jordanian legislations. This time around the country lost a very critical occasion to test the legality of the 1986 Election Law with reference to bedouins. When it becomes opportune to test the constitutionality of the said law with reference to Christians, Circassians and Shishans, the court system of Jordan would also be failing to perform its functions unless the government takes a giant political decision to liberate its highest court from existing constraints.

But all is not lost even at this modest stage when various views were aired on the subject of the constitutionality of the Election Law and a few brave would-be candidates made legal history by taking their complaints to court albeit without success. There is no doubt that the debate which was stirred already on this point will continue till the issues raised are addressed in a satisfactory manner. As the saying goes, a 1000-kilometre march starts with one modest step; fortunately that momentous first step has already been taken by Jordan.

Killings and counter-killings in Palestine

By P.V. Vivekanand

IN ALL probability, a recent threat issued against activists of the 22-month-old Palestinian uprising by a group of self-styled collaborators is the work of Israeli agents in a clever scheme to sow dissent among the Palestinians. But that does not alter the reality in the occupied territories that inter-Palestinian violence, which has been on the rise in the past two months, could have created deep schisms among the Palestinian community.

Almost everyday, there are killings and severe beatings by "masked, unidentified assailants" — a media term which points the finger at "enforcers" of the uprising. At this rate, it is not inconceivable that the number of Palestinians killed by fellow Palestinians could overtake the number of Palestinian victims of Israeli bullets in the next six months or so.

According to media counts, 133 Palestinians have been killed by "other Palestinians" since the uprising erupted in December 1987, about 100 of them in this year alone. Most of them were described as known collaborators, and the methods used in killing them varied from brutal stranglings to point-blank shootings. In some cases, "enforcers" are emulating the South African "necklace" killings — lighting fire to fuel-soaked tyres tied around the victim's neck.

No doubt, these killings are cited by the Israelis to augment their cause that they are fighting "terrorists" in the occupied territories. One of the aspects of the incidents is the speed with which the Israeli army confirms the killings while it takes several hours before it confirms deaths and injuries caused by Israeli soldiers.

Well, why blame the Israelis for taking advantage of events delivered to them in a platter? It

is time the Palestinians themselves stop in their tracks for a moment and reassess their approach and judge for themselves whether inter-Palestinian killings serve the intifada or not?

First of all, there were at least a couple of dozen cases where the victims had very little to do with the charges of collaborating leveled against them. They simply were the targets of tribal or family feuds. This assessment has been formulated after several weeks of news observation and talks with people with inside knowledge of what is going on in the occupied territories.

In some other cases, the victims were either drug traffickers, prostitutes, neighbourhood bullies or petty criminals, and their deaths were the result of a "cleaning campaign" launched by social leaders in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. That would leave us with about

80 to 90 deaths of "collaborators." But, how many of them were actually guilty of the charges? How many of them were in reality Palestinian double agents but were seen as collaborators?

Adding fuel to the fire are reports from the West Bank and Gaza that several "Palestinian gangs" — variously named as "red eagles", "revolutionary eagles", "black panther brigades", "Abu Jihad fanatics", etc. etc. — are "terrorising" Arab neighbourhoods. It is increasingly becoming clear that while some Palestinian youths have taken things in their own hands, the Israelis are contributing to the confusion over who represents what and sending a totally blurred picture of "Palestinian violence" in the occupied territories.

Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation

(PLO), has described some of those killed as "quislings" but said all of them were given time to repent and rejoin the Palestinian ranks before they were "punished."

A senior PLO official argues that "many of the collaborators were punished by their families (clans), thus avoiding bloodfeuds among the Palestinians." The argument goes that when family members carry out the punishment against collaborators there is no chance of feelings of "revenge" springing up. In any event, the official argues, "it is difficult to bring discipline to the grass-roots level even in countries with elected governments and designated security forces." Furthermore, "we are in a war of liberation and it is only natural that heads will roll; some of them guilty, some of them innocent. That's a price we have to pay." But, judging from reports

reaching us from the occupied territories, fears are mounting that the situation could be getting out of hand.

It is clear that no single dosage of solution is available to address the chronic inter-Palestinian violence, particularly that the different PLO groups are following individual strategies and plans with little central coordination. But what is alarming is the possibility that some of their organised groups in the occupied territories could soon be fighting among themselves, depending on the rise in the barometer in peace efforts exerted by the PLO leadership.

The net picture would be inter-Palestinian violence in the occupied territories whenever there is a difference of opinion among PLO leaders outside. Isn't it time the PLO leadership read the writing on the wall and moved swiftly to wipe it off?

Armies face up across uneasy Gulf frontiers

By David Tucker
Reuters

NICOSIA — From frozen mountain heights near the Turkish frontier to oil-rich deserts on the Gulf, two huge armies face each other across the Iran-Iraq border more than a year after a ceasefire stilled the guns in the Gulf war. But while an uneasy calm prevails across the battlefields, the war of words goes on.

Soviet and British-made tanks are dug into soft sand, their guns aimed across the palm-bordered Shatt Al Arab waterway that marks the belligerents' southern frontier.

Further north winter is moving in as Iraqi troops scan Iranian positions from mountain heights that will soon be swept with snow.

Since the U.N.-sponsored ceasefire came into force in August 1988, a handful of blue-beretted United Nations observers has patrolled the 1,200 kilometre border.

Ceasefire violations are regularly reported but none has been serious enough to provoke a resumption of major fighting.

The battles stopped and observers were deployed under the 10-point U.N. Security Council resolution 598 enforcing the ceasefire.

But little progress has been made on the resolution's call to Iran and Iraq to cooperate in mediation efforts to reach a settlement, acceptable to both sides, of all outstanding issues.

"Talks have failed," said a Middle East military analyst. "But both Iran and Iraq have too much to lose by going back to war — so you are stuck with this war, no peace situation."

U.N. special envoy Jan Eliasson is due in the region this week in the latest of many attempts to revive the talks but there are no signs that either country is willing to compromise.

Iran and Iraq pounded each other's cities with missiles while on the battlefield children armed with sticks assaulted tanks and troops. Chemical weapons were used by both sides — maiming those not killed by poison droplets carried by artillery shells and bombs.

There has been much talk but little substance in several rounds of negotiations, now deadlocked. Iran's position has not changed since the death of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in June.

Tehran demands Baghdad should withdraw its troops from 2,600 square kilometres of Iranian territory before talks about a firm peace in the Gulf can resume.

Iraq says priority must go to clearing debris blocking the Shatt Al Arab waterway, opening the way to restoring its city of Basra to pre-war prominence as a major trading port.

"Both countries are demanding things the other cannot agree to," said the analyst.

Caught in the middle are 100,000 prisoners of war, about 60,000 held by Iran. Attempts late last year sponsored by the International Red Cross to arrange the repatriation of wounded or sick POWs collapsed in acrimony as Baghdad and Tehran accused one another of bad faith after the swap of only a few hundred.

Iran, with a population of more than 50 million compared with Iraq's 17 million, still has about a million men under arms, including reserves.

Iraq, which has been disbanding irregular units since the ceasefire, has around half a million reservists among its total armed forces of slightly fewer than a million.

"The cost of maintaining these huge armies is enormous. Iraq is heavily in debt to the Gulf countries which bankrolled Baghdad during the war, but neither wants to let down their guard in case fighting returns," said the analyst.

The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies in its 1988-1989 edition of "The Military Balance" puts Iraq's defence budget for 1988-89 at \$8.69 billion.

Iraq raised military spending this month and Rafsanjani, while giving no overall figures, said credits for the military and security forces would be increased by \$1.5 billion.

Iraq keeps its defence budget secret but some estimates put current spending at \$12 billion a year.

Both countries are desperately trying to rebuild their economies. Iran has reopened airports, restored rail links and is attempting to inject new blood into its economy.

Many factories are still unable to operate at full capacity because of a shortage of raw materials and power, economists say. Power stations were among key targets raided by the Iraqi air force during the war.

Iraq has largely rebuilt major towns destroyed during the war — Basra is emerging from the ashes and the oil town of Fao, where the tide of war turned in Iraq's favour early in 1988, has been officially declared a city reborn.

Djibouti, desert with no oil, sees petroleum as salvation

DJIBOUTI (R) — Djibouti, a small desert nation bordering Ethiopia and Somalia at the mouth of the Red Sea, has no oil and little of anything else, but it is banking on petroleum for its financial salvation.

A wealthy Saudi Arabian investor, Sheikh Halim Rabbani, and the French oil multinational Total plan to build a \$900 million refinery which officials hope will win over other foreigners hesitant to invest in Djibouti.

The plant would refine oil for the domestic population of 450,000 as well as make products for export, profiting from Djibouti's strategic location.

"We hope that this will have the effect of pulling in other investments," said Ali Malow Quedid, secretary general of the ministry of commerce, transport and tourism.

The project, on which work will start this year, signals confidence in Djibouti as an oasis of stability in the war-torn Horn of Africa. Somalia in the south and Ethiopia to the west are ravaged by civil war.

The refinery could slash Djibouti's high energy costs, a major drawback in efforts to lure industrial investors since the former French colony gained independence 12 years ago.

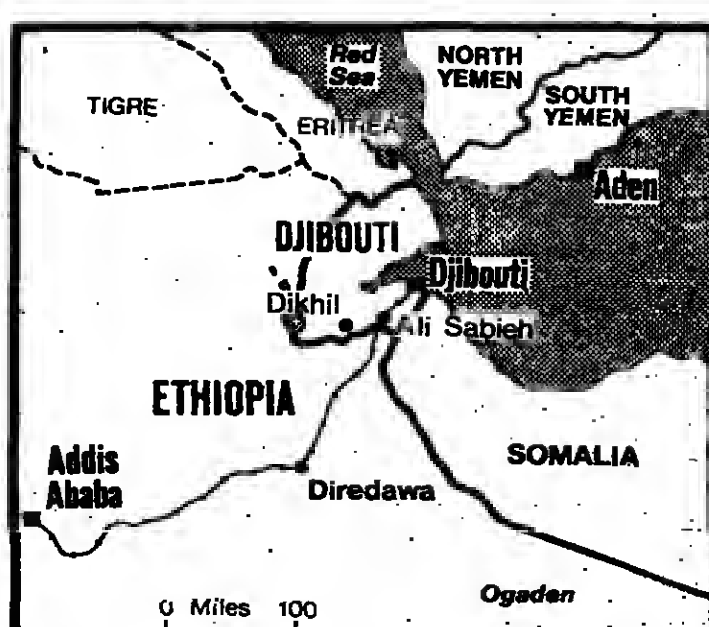
Djibouti Foreign Minister Moumin Bahdon Farah has said the planned 100,000 barrel per day refinery, which will take 2½ years to build, would meet both local and reexport demand.

The project will refine crude from Saudi Arabia and other Arab producers and, according to Mohammed Omar Dabar of the International Chamber of Commerce and Industry, it could cut Djibouti's energy costs by more than one-third.

Officials hope that its spinoff benefits, railway improvements, a drive to train skilled labour, and peace moves in the region could herald a new investment climate.

"A lot depends on peace in the region," Bour Houssein Omar, director of the national office for supplies and commerce, told Reuters.

Founded in 1887 as a coaling station for French vessels bound for Indonesia and Indian Ocean colonies, Djibouti overlooks one



of the world's busiest shipping crossroads.

As the gateway to the Indian Ocean and the Gulf its port handled 1.1 million tonnes of cargo in 1988, including 500,000 tonnes of oil products and 135,000 tonnes of other transit goods for Ethiopia.

It is the world's fifth biggest bunkering port and remains an important base for French naval and air forces.

Spending by Paris on the 3,800 servicemen and their families stationed here and French aid of about 40 million francs (\$6 million) a year contribute about half of Djibouti's gross domestic product.

Officials have long dreamed of developing it as a major trading, transshipment and manufacturing centre for Africa and the Arabian Peninsula.

But, as Bour Houssein Omar said: "Our goal of making Djibouti a Hong Kong is not so far fulfilled."

Incentives for foreign investors include a liberal investment code offering tax holidays of up to eight years and exemption from import and other duties and putting no limit on stakes in industrial and service ventures it wants to encourage.

Djibouti has no foreign ex-

change controls, and offers a convertible currency linked to the U.S. dollar, modern telecommunications and banking services, and a free trade zone where companies may import raw materials and export finished goods free of duties.

It benefits from the Lome Convention on aid and trade under which manufacturers here would enjoy preferential access to the European Community.

It is also a gateway to the Arabian Peninsula and the 16-nation Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa which has set out to form a common market of up to 140 million people.

But in the shadow of conflicts running for up to 28 years it battles to develop even traditional transshipment business with Ethiopia and Somalia.

Total trade has stagnated during the 1980s with imports amounting to 35 billion francs (\$197.7 million) and exports of 4.9 billion francs (\$27.7 million) in 1987, the latest year for which figures are available.

Volumes of Ethiopian cargo have shumped 60 per cent since the Djibouti-Addis Ababa railway, built in 1917, was damaged during the 1977-78 Ogaden war between Ethiopia and Somalia.

Législatives

Les propos de leur campagne

Cinq candidats expliquent au "Jourdain" les raisons de leur candidature, leurs idées, ce qu'ils pensent du scrutin et du Parlement.

«Il faut combattre l'importation des cultures étrangères qui détériorent les mœurs.»

Mohammad Nourredine Chahada, ancien directeur de la formation et du centre-espionnage à la sécurité nationale, chef d'entreprise depuis le début des années 70. Candidat indépendant dans la 3e circonscription d'Amman.

Candidature. C'est une obligation. Mon expérience, ma connaissance des réalités du pays et des causes de notre décadence sociale, économique et politique m'ont amené à me présenter.

Programme. Il faut combattre l'importation des cultures étrangères, qui détériorent les mœurs. On imite l'Occident sans se rendre compte des conséquences. L'islam offre une solution à tous ces maux et la Jordanie appartient au monde musulman.

L'objectif. J'ai un comité d'experts et une commission de femmes, qui préparent mes meetings. La campagne est une affaire pérenne, dans laquelle je n'investirai pas plus de 3.500 dinars. La liberté d'expression laisse aux candidats et aux électeurs une bonne chose.

Le Parlement. Sa force dépendra de la conscience des députés, mais les partis et les idéologies anti-islamiques doivent en être proscrits.

1968. Candidat musulman dans la 4e circonscription d'Amman.

Candidature. Ma famille et mes amis m'ont poussé à présenter. J'y pense de tout façon, parce que c'est un moyen d'exercer la démocratie.

Programme. Il faut combattre la bureaucratie, promouvoir l'égalité entre les classes sociales dans l'éducation, le droit au travail, le salaire. Il faut aussi distribuer la terre à ceux qui la travaillent.

L'objectif. Une dizaine de personnes travaillent avec moi. J'ai déjà dépensé 10.000 dinars dans la campagne et je ne me suis pas fixé de limite, bien que je trouve les tarifs de la presse scandaleux. Je suis néanmoins heureux du soutien démocratique que le scrutin donne au pays et de voir que les femmes se présentent. C'est un symbole de modernisme. Mais j'estime que 2 députés pour 63.000 électeurs, c'est trop peu.

Le Parlement. Il défend le peuple par les lois. Il doit promouvoir le multipartisme.

personnes avec lesquelles je discute des slogans les plus importants. Les 5.000 dinars que j'ai dépensés proviennent des dons de mes électeurs.

Programme. Mon rôle sera de parler des problèmes des gens. L'Assemblée doit être un lieu de dialogue.

«Je suis agréablement surpris par le bon accueil des électeurs à la candidature d'une femme.»

Houda Fakheri. Née en 1945 à Salt. A passé trois ans comme médecin dans les rangs de l'Armée de libération de la Palestine avant d'ouvrir un cabinet de dentiste à Amman. Militante nationaliste et progressiste. Candidature à un siège chrétien à Salt.

Candidature. Ma conscience politique est née de mon expérience au sein de l'ALP. J'ai grandi dans une famille politisée, qui croit à l'unité arabe. J'ai choisi de me présenter à Salt pour briser le mur du système tribal et promouvoir les femmes dans la politique.

Programme. Réactiver la Constitution, abolir la loi martiale et les lois d'exception. Il faut promouvoir les droits de base de l'homme, comme le droit d'opinion, d'écriture, d'action, de mouvement... et rétablir les libertés de la presse, d'association et de formation de partis politiques. Il faut assister les pauvres, promouvoir l'enseignement et les droits de la femme.

A l'échelle internationale, je pense que seule l'union arabe permettra aux habitants de cette partie du monde de réaliser leurs aspirations.

L'objectif. La campagne me coûte personnellement 2.000 dinars. J'ai créé deux comités, l'un pour la diffusion de mon programme, l'autre pour l'organisation des meetings et des rencontres privées. Bien que la campagne soit trop courte, je suis agréablement surpris par le bon accueil des électeurs à la candidature d'une femme. Même s'il nous faut plus de qualités personnelles qu'aux hommes soutenus par des tribus. Me présenter m'a également permis de découvrir des problèmes sociaux que j'ignorais.

Le Parlement. Il fait partie de la Constitution et doit garantir toute action nationale. Il devrait ouvrir la porte aux femmes dans de nombreux domaines.

Propos recueillis par Hanan Sitarhi et Alain Renon.

«Mon rôle sera de parler des problèmes des gens. L'Assemblée doit être un lieu de dialogue.»

Abdel-Aziz Al-A'ali. 64 ans. Expatrié de Palestine en 1967. Militant communiste depuis l'adolescence. Candidat à l'un des 4 sièges arabes musulmans de Zarqa.

Candidature. Je suis un militant politique, qui croit à la Constitution.

Programme. Moderniser la vie politique en supprimant toutes les lois qui vont contre la liberté d'expression, de réunion, de la presse... Il faut notamment supprimer certains amendements réactionnaires de la loi électorale, qui ne respectent pas l'esprit de la Constitution. Je demande enfin la suppression de toutes les discriminations raciales, religieuses et territoriales à l'échelle nationale.

L'objectif. Je suis content que toutes les candidatures aient été acceptées. La non-utilisation de l'article 18 de la loi électorale par le gouvernement est un acte contraire qui traduit une volonté d'ouverture politique, d'ailleurs nécessaire, qui conduira à terme au multipartisme. Le peuple jordanien a longtemps été privé de cette ambiance. N'ayant pas les moyens de faire campagne dans les journaux, je me suis associé à un candidat circassien dont les objectifs sont proches des miens. Nos dépenses ne dépasseront pas les 7.000 dinars.

Le Parlement. Il marquera, je l'espère, une étape vers la démocratie sans possibilité de retour en arrière. Si l'Assemblée est dissoute avant le terme de son mandat, je pense que ce sera pour en être une meilleure.

«Je suis heureux du souffle démocratique que le scrutin donne au pays et de voir que les femmes se présentent.»

Fayad Fawzi Djerrar. 44 ans. Ancien douanier et coopté en 1984 au Parlement pour représenter la rive ouest du Jourdain. Membre d'une grande tribu palestinienne et candidat arabe musulman à Zarqa.

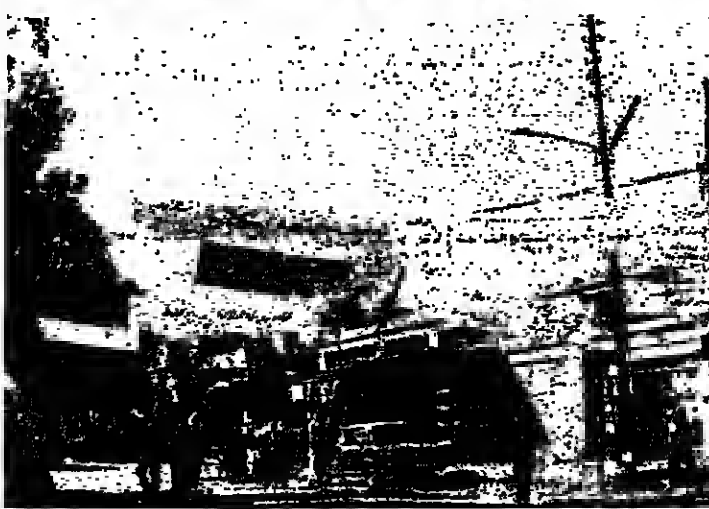
Candidature. Ma famille a toujours été sollicitée pour représenter la tribu et ses intérêts.

Programme. Il faut lutter contre la bureaucratie et promouvoir la décentralisation. Je veux que tous les bacheliers puissent entrer à l'université et trouver un travail. Ces efforts doivent être menés avec le gouvernement. Je veux que les femmes participent à la vie du pays. C'est pourquoi j'ai décidé de voter pour une candidate le 8 novembre.

L'objectif. Le climat démocratique touche électeurs et candidats. Pour ma campagne, je suis entouré de cinq

Banderolles

Le Paradis de l'afficheur



Athman Mohammad al-Halk est un afficheur heureux. Campagne électorale oblige, son minuscule magasin proche du deuxième cercle de Djebel Amman n'a jamais connu une telle effervescence. Et ce depuis le 12 octobre, jour où un candidat de ces amis lui a demandé de préparer ses banderolles.

Abandonnant sans regret les maigres commandes d'enseignes de magasins, Athman s'est lancé pour trois semaines dans la copie sur drap de slogans qu'il fait siens. «Je n'aurais pas accepté d'aider un candidat dont je ne partage pas les idées», assure-t-il. La conscience au poir, il n'a pas reculé devant une tâche pourtant lourde. «Mon unique employé et moi travaillons de 8 heures à 1 heure du matin, 7 jours sur 7», précise-t-il. Un rythme infernal, qui leur permet parfois de réaliser quotidiennement 20 banderolles. «Nous en avons déjà faites 240 et nous atteindrons peut-être les 500 affiches à la fin de la campagne», estime Athman. Payé 750 fils par mètre d'écriture, le propriétaire d'"Islam al-Halk" ne se plaint pas. «Je vais gagner environ 2.000 dinars, soit plus que mon chiffre d'affaire annuel en temps normal», avoue-t-il d'autant plus satisfait que sa part de travail se limite à la reproduction des slogans que lui confie son candidat-client. «C'est lui qui achète le drap, qui le fait découper et ourler par un tailleur, moi, je choisis les couleurs et la calligraphie, c'est tout.» Sans oublier sa signature, histoire de se faire connaître.

Rapport 1988 d'Amnesty International

Gouvernements hors la loi

Les massacres et assassinats commis dans le monde par des agents gouvernementaux en complète illégalité ont atteint un «niveau extraordinaire» en 1988, constate Amnesty International dans son rapport annuel publié hier.

Sur les 133 pays cités dans le document, une vingtaine d'Etats sont particulièrement visés pour leur pratique des massacres et des exécutions illégales. Ainsi de la Colombie, du Salvador, du Guatemala, du Nicaragua, du Pérou ou encore de Haïti, où les meurtres commis par l'armée ou des «escadrons de la mort» sont encouragés par les autorités au point de devenir monnaie courante. Les gouvernements, souligne Amnesty, ont déployé «d'énormes efforts pour détruire les preuves de ces turpitudes et de leurs propres responsabilités».

En Afrique, l'organisation humanitaire énumère la Somalie, le Soudan et le Burundi, ravagés par des insurrections ou des guerres civiles. Elle dénonce, au Moyen-Orient, l'utilisation de l'arme chimique par l'Irak contre les opposants kurdes (5.000 morts à Halabja en mars dernier) et la poursuite des exécutions sommaires au Liban.

EN BREF

Reconstruction. Le roi Hussein, les présidents égyptien et nord-yéménite ainsi que Yasser Arafat ont assisté hier à Bagdad aux festivités marquant le début de la reconstruction de la ville de Fao, détruite pendant la guerre Iran-Irak. Selon le quotidien égyptien al-Ahram, les chefs d'Etat du Conseil de coopération arabe (CCA) devaient profiter de cette rencontre pour examiner l'éventualité de la convocation avant la fin de l'année d'un sommet arabe extraordinaire consacré à la question palestinienne.

Liban. Le triumvirat arabe, réunissant les diplomates saoudienne, algérienne et marocaine, a prévu mardi une session du Parlement libanais à Beyrouth avant le 7 novembre pour l'élection d'un nouveau président de la République. Cet appel fait suite à l'adoption dimanche par la majorité des députés réunis à Taef du «document d'entente nationale» proposé par la Ligue arabe. Selon le triumvirat, un sommet arabe extraordinaire devrait par ailleurs parer prochainement un projet de retrait des troupes syriennes du Liban.

«Patrie». Le pape a appelé dimanche à la création d'une patrie palestinienne, en présence de 30.000 pèlerins rassemblés place Saint-Pierre à Rome. Evoquant les «cris d'un peuple tout entier», le pape a déclaré qu'il faisait «sienne la légitime requête [des Palestiniens] de vivre en paix dans une patrie qui leur appartienne, en respectant le droit de tout autre peuple à la tranquillité et à la sécurité nécessaires». Deux jours plus tôt, la Communauté économique européenne avait annoncé son intention de procurer une nouvelle aide directe de plus de 5 millions de dollars aux habitants des territoires occupés par Israël.

République. «Je déclare solennellement que, selon notre nouvelle constitution, la Hongrie a depuis ce jour, 23 octobre 1989, la statue et le nom de République de Hongrie», a déclaré lundi le président hongrois par intérim, Matyas Szarus, à Budapest. Symbolisant pour de nombreux observateurs la rupture avec le communisme, cette petite phrase, prononcée le jour anniversaire de l'insurrection de 1956, a mis fin pour la première fois dans un pays de l'Est à la terminologie d'Etat «socialiste» ou «populaire».

Sida. Un groupe de chercheurs japonais a affirmé samedi avoir réussi à produire un anticorps capable de détruire in vitro les cellules atteintes du sida. L'«Antigène-FAS» laisse intact les cellules normales, assurent ces scientifiques, parmi lesquels figurent des experts de l'université de Yamaguchi. Des précisions seront données cette semaine sur cette découverte lors d'une rencontre de l'Association japonaise pour le cancer.

A L'AFFICHE

CINEMA

Papa sei una frana. d'Arthur Miller, avec Al Pacino et Dyan Cannon, Comédie.

Maya arts centre, jeudi 26 octobre à 19h00 (en italien).

Amadeus, de Milos Forman, avec F. Murray Abraham, Tom Hulce et Elizabeth Berridge. L'histoire (romancée) de la vie de Mozart et de la jalousie de Salieri, compositeur de cour détrôné par le jeune prodige... Centre multiculturel, jeudi 26 et dimanche 29 octobre à 19h00 (en anglais).

Ciné-club. Séances à 14h00, 16h00, 18h00, 20h00 et 22h00. Projection pour les jeunes jeudi à 16h00, nouveau film, le lundi à 20h00, pour les membres du club.

Jeudi 26: The big sleep; Les 101 Dalmatiens; Gilda; Beaches; Potemkine.

Vendredi 27: Green high; Cry in the dark; I call him Al; What happened to Baby Jane?; To kill and back.

Samedi 28: All the president men (PNC); My stepmother is an alien; Ambassy; Blue savior.

Dimanche 29: Kidnaped; a storm over Asia; The train; Yoi; Major Dundee.

Lune: 28; Anastasia; La Mégère apprivoisée; Shampoo; Personnel file; Treasure of Sierra Madre.

CONCERT

Récital. Le pianiste français François Kerdouff, premier prix du Conservatoire national supérieur de Paris et premier prix de musique de chambre, donne un récital d'oeuvres de Debussy, Chopin, Brahms et Beethoven.

Centre culturel royal, mardi 31 octobre à 20h00. Prix des places: 4 dinars; demi-tarif pour les étudiants. Réservations au 669026 ou 636445.

TELEVISION

Mort d'Orpheus, de Gérard Gorlan, avec Agnès Blanchot, Jacques Debary et Marc Eyraud (1989). Au cours d'un spectacle nautique, les orques remontent à la surface le corps de leur drapeleur, étrangement vêtu...

JTV, vendredi 26 octobre à 17h30.

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The role of drama, theatre in early education

By Hind-Lara Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — By and large the two terms — drama in education and theatre in education — tend to be confused. In the first, a child is the participant. Drama in this case is a learning experience rather than a performing experience. On the other hand, in theatre in education skills are utilised into the classroom. Here, a child is under continuous observation, and learning is made more significant.

Drama is a wide subject and involves a long process of learning from life. A child learns to discover and solve problems all through his/her acting. Today, drama utilises a child's yearning to play for educational means. A teacher provides his/her student with a certain subject from which the child can learn various facts and ways of coping with it. In this manner, a child also gains verbal and decision-making skills. Drama thus plays a major role in helping a child in his/her educational subjects.

With a common philosophy of integrating drama in education as a method and a tool, and in developing children's theatre and puppetry in Jordan, three enthusiastic women have got together and formed the National Group for Drama in Education. Children's Theatre and Puppetry. Team members are: Edwina Issa, Margo Maladjalian, and Samar Dudin Karajah.

"Our aim is to introduce drama in kindergarten and secondary age groups," says Maladjalian. "A workshop has already started for training teachers in using drama as a learning medium in various school areas. An association of membership has not yet been set up by the group. However, people who are currently involved in it, other than the founding members, are those who have attended previous workshops, and who feel that they would like to help in other projects," adds Maladjalian, an expert and pioneer in the field of puppetry. The 16-hour drama workshop for teachers runs from October till November. This will be followed by a workshop on puppetry in education. During this time Issa and Karajah will be doing their follow-up work on teachers who trained at the work-



Samar Karajah and some of her students

shop. They will be going to their schools and seeing how they have applied what they learnt. They will find out what sort of problems the teachers are facing in terms of space, children, etc...

Part of training

"A plan has been also set for a teacher-training workshop for the higher education system," Karajah said.

"We are planning on visiting the universities in Jordan in order to make drama in education a necessary part of the in-service training of educators (teachers, post-graduates, and lecturers). I have seen many colleges and universities here with programmes for theatre or drama. But most of the information being used is outdated; it does not exactly apply to the recent definition of

drama in education. Educators are still mixing up drama in the classroom with the drama they watch on television," said Karajah, a drama teacher at the Al Ahliyyah School for Girls.

Drama can be used in all fields such as youth societies and voluntary bodies, and those who have special needs. In Jordan, drama has, to some extent, been used with handicapped children. Issa is head of the drama department at the International Community school. She has been in the country for seven years, and has employed drama with cerebral palsy children. She relates this unique experience to the Jordan Times: "These children worked beautifully side by side with my other students. I think it is so good to be exposed to people who need our help. Not only does one help people who are institu-

tionalised, but a teacher also develops his/her working skills. A handicapped child has such a belief in the story lines being recited by the teacher; it is sometimes more real to him/her than an ordinary child. I have worked in England with epileptic children. One child became so involved in the imaginary situation being created that he went into an epileptic fit. Drama can be used as a diagnostic method. As a group, this area interests us and we will be exploring it in more detail in the future."

According to Karajah, "we are open to anyone who would like any information on children's theatre, drama in education, or puppet's theatre. Our library at the Friends of Children Club is open to the public. It is important to have a sort of library accessible to the public concerning these subject areas. So we provide books, guides, visual resources (slides and videos). Existing matter on the subject will be translated into Arabic in order to make these fields beneficial and an aid in expanding these arts in Jordan."

"Practical demonstrations are carried out in order to initiate action and understanding of dramatic application. We are more concerned with the practical experience of drama. The group wants to make teachers feel more confident and capable with drama in various educational fields. Guest speakers will be invited, and seminars and workshops will be held at our centre, the Friends of Children Club," said Karajah, an active participant in teacher training programmes.

Theatre in education

Another area that the group hopes to develop in Jordan is theatre in education. Here teacher/factor teams perform plays that evolve around the educational curriculum. A specific theme relevant to an age group is introduced in this course.

The group hopes to change some of the preconceived ideas about what the school play should be like.

"Teachers will realise what potential children have in creating the play, directing and putting it on," explains Maladjalian. It

should be an extension of a child's activity in the classroom, or in his/her free time rather than an imposed script that is brought to him/her in order to act out as a professional actor. The play should grow out of a child's language. In this way, a child will have better knowledge and appreciation of theatre as a communicative art."

The theatre and education project will be carried out by the end of this year. Its goal is of collaborating with experienced people on a production.

"Our theatre in education production aims at exploring and working around the problem of the use of English as a second language in public schools," observed Karajah. This is a severe problem since some twelfth students do not pass the exam because of their English. Via our theatre in education we hope to deal with this dilemma. It will be our last activity for the year 1989."

Potential of graduates

There are great numbers of drama graduates who come out as actors and have nowhere to go. Issa says that the group can develop the skills of these graduates. "They can be utilised in the classroom. A body of teachers geared towards an educational objective could be formed in the country. With their help a youth theatre can be set up with theatre and education productions. An actor/teacher would then apply an educational concept in the syllabus."



"Our aim is to introduce drama in kindergarten and secondary age groups"

The group is mainly concerned with training teachers to apply drama first, and putting on examples of children's theatre, and theatre education. Priority is given to drama in education simply because it is a subject that is not well-defined in Jordan. It has been misused due to insufficient knowledge about the nature of the subject," Issa said. The group wants to establish this subject very clearly and to make use of all of a teacher's resources. Thus drama will be accessible to teachers as a teaching tool, she said.

According to Issa, teachers are gradually being made aware of the potential of drama, as a learning medium. "For drama is not just a leisure activity, it can be

employed in science and mathematics," she said. It is a very economical tool to apply since it just requires a receptive student, and a creative teacher."

As for puppetry in education, Maladjalian says, "the group promotes this area as an aesthetic art-form, and the use of puppetry as an educational tool. In order to exchange information with professionals, contact will be made with the Union Internationale de la Marionnette. Hence, the theory and practice of the art of puppetry will be enhanced. Continuous contact with national and international organisations will be provided for cooperative reasons. The rest of our goals coincide with the aims of drama

and theatre in education in providing literature for these topics."

So far, all three founders find their experience stimulating. They feel that they are exploring virgin territory that has yet much more to give. They are getting in touch with people involved in education. "Knowing the history of arts in our country, unless the arts are integrated into our educational systems, we are not going to have any art at all," Karajah said. "The beginning has to start with education. Theatre, music, and the like are not really very common in Jordan. We are trying to implement all the arts into our teaching infrastructure as methods and tools that a teacher uses in education."

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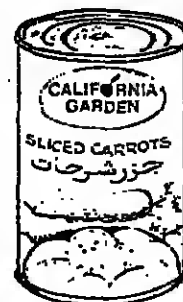


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Palestinian physicist ties peace to economics

By Philippa Neave

PARIS — Expelled from Israel August 25, Palestinian physicist Tayyar Aruri was led blindfolded and handcuffed to Tel Aviv airport and put on a plane to France, the country which had accepted his request for asylum. A lecturer at the famous Palestinian Bir Zeit University in the West Bank and an active member of a local political party, Aruri spent a year in jail before being exiled to exile for the charge of "political activity." When his appeal was rejected by the Israeli court system, he had to leave without seeing his wife and children.

In a recent interview in Paris, the 43-year-old father of three discussed the different aspects of the Palestinian problem and what hope there is for the future. Following are excerpts from the conversation.

On the current economic situation in the occupied territories that comprise the Gaza Strip and the West Bank seized by Israel in the 1967 war:

"Economic research conducted before the intifada showed that the occupation was a major investment for the Israelis. By my calculations, in 1986 they had a net economic benefit of about \$2 billion. This includes the use of cheap Palestinian labour (about 110,000 people) who worked in Israel, exports to the occupied territories, taxes and tourism. The occupation, in effect, was one of the major economic projects in the Middle East."

"But since the start of the rebellion about two years ago, the situation has been reversed: the territories have become an economic burden for the Israelis. The occupation is costing them just under \$2 billion a year in military costs and lost earnings from strikes and the drop in tourism. For example, in 1987, 1.5 million tourists came to Israel, which planned on 2 million for 1988, but only about 1 million came. The Israelis themselves have estimated their losses at \$850 million."

On the role of economics in the peace process:

"Economics will be the most important factor for durable peace between the two states — Israel and Palestine — because of the common interests of the two peoples. Only when these are greater than the animosity between them will peace be durable. There is already some degree of economic integration between Israel and the occupied territories, but for the time being it's one-sided; the benefits need to be balanced. The future Palestinian state will export the bulk of its production to Israel, which needs it."

"There will have to be new agreements: on equal wages for Israelis and Palestinians, equal social security costs and benefits, equal taxes, profit from tourism — there are important sites on both sides of the green line (the border between the West Bank and Israel), and if peace prevailed there could be a boom in tourism which would benefit everybody."

On the prospects of economic independence for a Palestinian state:

"Economic independence will depend widely on its relations with the 12-member European Economic Community (EEC). A lot of goods exported by Israel today to the EEC are actually made in the West Bank — shoes for example. The West Bank manufactures all the shoes exported, though the labels say 'Made in Israel.'"

"Electricity is another example: over 90 per cent of the electricity used in the occupied territories comes from Israel. There will have to be some sort of agreement. A more complicated issue concerns scarce water resources. These are either under the mountains of the West Bank or along the green line. Israel currently retains control over all the water resources and uses 90 per cent of them (Palestinian farmers have seen their quota of water greatly reduced). A joint committee will have to be set up to decide on an equitable division of water rights. In the long term, maybe Palestine could become the bridge through which Israel could build economic relations with the Arab World."

On the plan to organise an election in the occupied territories to elect representatives of the Palestinian people:

"Voices are calling for a direct dialogue between the Palestinians and the Israelis, possibly under U.N. sponsorship. The Americans have agreed that Palestinians from inside the territories and those living abroad could take part. The (Israeli) Labour Party has also agreed, but the ruling Likud and other right-wing parties are against it."

"When the Israeli government put the election plan forward a few months ago, it was more of a public relations and time-saving move, and it was also to curtail the diplomatic drive of the Palestinians. I am sorry to say that in some ways, it succeeded. We are not against the elections, but we see them as a step towards full independence. We have no illusions about Israeli policy or the principle of having so-called 'democratic' elections under the occupation. That's why we insist that the elections be held under international supervision and following partial withdrawal of the Israeli forces. If the elections lead to a fully independent Palestinian state, everyone would vote. As in every political situation, there are always extremists, but there will be a consensus by the great majority."

On the role of the Palestinian diaspora, estimated at 4 million people who live mostly in the U.S., Western Europe and the Gulf nations:

"We consider that any Palestinian in the diaspora has the right to go back to his own state. U.N. General Assembly resolutions stipulate that refugees have the right to return to their own land, or to receive compensation. In the future this question will have to be settled, but the Palestinians should remain flexible. If the Israelis are really looking for peace, they should be prepared to hand over to the refugees who wish to return the (Jewish) settlements built in the occupied territories. There will be a high percentage of Palestinians in the diaspora who will not return, but they should have the right to do so."

"Politically most Palestinians in the diaspora play a secondary role. They have a great deal to do with helping the rebellion, but they could do a lot more to help the political process."

On the potential influx of thousands of Soviet Jews now allowed to leave the Soviet Union to settle in Israel, where land and housing are already scarce:

"This is purely a theoretical question. Facts are very different: the ratio of Soviet Jews who opt for Israel is decreasing. The latest statistics show only 8 per cent of them end up there. If the door to the U.S. and Western Europe closes, then they would not leave the Soviet Union. Even if they came, there would not be much change, except perhaps a swing to the right, because politically most Soviet Jews end up in the (conservative) Likud camp."

"The reason for that is... that the Israeli Labour Party as a socialist party is not doing its job. Many of those who vote for the Likud do so because they are disappointed by the Labour Party in terms of social action. But they are no better off with the Likud."

On the Israeli/Palestinian demographic equation which includes a natality rate of 3.4 per cent for Palestinian women, one of the highest in the world:

"In a situation of occupation, when one people control another, this is very important. But when you have two states, what does it matter if the population growth of one state is twice that of the other — it becomes an internal question."

On the position of Palestinian Liberation Organisation Chair-

man Yasser Arafat:

"I don't agree (with press comments) about Arafat's supposed 'tougher' stand. Anyone who listens closely to his speeches will realise that he is standing by his own initiative and is not ready to make more concessions. He knows that if he does, he will lose a great deal of support among the Palestinians. They back him but feel that he has gone far enough. The question of the PLO charter (including a paragraph pushing for the annihilation of Israel) is often brought up by the Israelis, but the Palestinians forgot about it long ago. Most people have never even read it or know anything about what is in it. The political results of the 19th Palestine National Council meeting held in Algiers this spring and Arafat's diplomatic initiative are far removed from the charter."

On the rebellion continuing in the occupied territories which has killed more than 700 Palestinians and about 40 Israelis:

"Looking at the intifada in all its aspects — social, economic, cultural and ideological — you can see that it has grown very deep roots. It has become an irreversible process. There is a consensus among people that they cannot stop, they must go on until total independence. They have no choice and nothing to lose."

On his personal experience and plans:

"I was arrested on August 8, 1988 but was not interrogated for 8 days. On August 17, 1988 the deportation order was issued — I was one of 25 people on the same list. At the time there was a policy of deportation. It ended with our list: we gained close to a year by appealing to the High Court of Justice; time was put to good use by the people campaigning against this procedure."

"No real charges were officially brought against us. We were told that there were two files on each of us: an open one and a secret one. Finally I was told that I was considered an activist. I don't know what will happen now. My wife and children are back home in Ramallah; I don't know where I am going to settle. So far the French authorities have not given me any papers. They say that if I can get a passport from an Arab country, they will give me a permanent visa. I would like to stay in France, find a job, bring my family and find a job for my wife. She is a sociologist and anthropologist; she also works with children." — World News Link

Non-alcoholic beers gaining in popularity

By Wilhelm Lange

MUNICH — "Light" is the new key word for the German food-stuffs and beverages industry. More and more consumers want "light" butter, sausage, milk and milk products; in other words, they should contain as little fat as possible. Less sugar is also used for drinks and jams. Nutrition is geared increasingly to health, keeping fit and slender.

As a result, low alcohol and non-alcoholic beers are also becoming more popular. In 1988, 1.5 million hectolitres of non-alcoholic beers were drunk in Germany out of a total of 88 million hectolitres, five times as much as five years earlier. The

percentage is rapidly increasing. At present, around 70 of this country's 1,168 breweries produce light beer on the premises. Apart from the obvious health advantages, it also signifies that anyone driving after drinking it does not come into conflict with the law — which lays down an alcohol limit of 0.8 per mill.

This does not mean of course, that traditional beer is on the way out. It contains vitamins, minerals and micronutrients. At the same time, the fact that it contains alcohol with all its consequences for human health and sometimes also moral standards cannot be denied. Full beers, brewed as pils or for export, have an alcohol content of 3.5 to 4.5

per cent by weight. The same also applies to tap beer, for instance to the kind provided in large tankards at the famous Munich Oktoberfest. Low alcohol or non-alcoholic beers contain only 0.5 per cent. Doctors feel that even alcoholics are not endangered by such beers. The low alcohol content is disposed of more rapidly than a person can actually drink. Fruit juices, over-ripe fruit and white bread also contain this sort of "percentage."

There are three methods used to produce beer with a minimum of alcohol. The easiest way is to prepare the basic ingredient malt in such a way that it does not contain any sugar so that no alcohol can be formed through



Low alcohol and non-alcoholic beers are increasing in popularity in Bavaria as well. The Federal German Minister for Food, Agriculture and Forestry, Ignaz Kiechl, appreciates the beers produced by his Bavarian homeland.

fermentation.

Alcohol can also be removed by means of membranes, which are used to withdraw it from the brewing copper. The most primitive method which at the same time is the most unsatisfactory in terms of taste is to remove the alcohol through heating. By this means, the alcohol is the first substance to evaporate.

The new beers have their trial period behind them. Although

appraised sceptically at first, they have in the interim become numbered among that long line of non-alcoholic beverages which experienced a real boom during the hot summer of 1989 in the Federal Republic of Germany. These beers are also brewed in accordance with the German Law of Purity dating back to 1516 — which decrees that only malt, hops, yeast and water should be used.

Arms race in reverse

AFTER a seemingly fallow period since last year's agreement between the two super-powers to scrap their intermediate-range nuclear missiles, there are now prospects of dramatic new breakthroughs in the disarmament field.

Should these be realised, they will boost hopes that 1990 will not only usher in a new decade, but also a new era in East-West relations. And this détente, in turn, will have a profound effect on global security.

Grounds for this upsurge in optimism have been found in the talks between the United States and Soviet Foreign Ministers, James Baker and Eduard Shevardnadze, and in the speeches of President Bush and Mr. Shevardnadze to the United Nations General Assembly.

At their meeting in Wyoming, the two ministers set a date for the first summit meeting between President Bush and Gorbachev. This is scheduled for late spring or early summer.

But, even more importantly, the two ministers indicated that their discussions may have gone a considerable way toward resolving some of the thorny problems which have affected arms control negotiations.

The most obvious product of the Wyoming talks was the agreement on a verification regime for a future multilateral chemical weapons (CW) treaty.

The accord represents a considerable step forward in that it allows for on-site inspection as a means of confirming a participating state's adherence to the treaty.

President Bush stressed the importance of achieving a global ban on the production and use of chemical weapons in his speech to the U.N. General Assembly. He underlined the danger that the proliferation of this threat posed for world peace.

Western experts estimate that about 20 countries already possess chemical weapons or the capacity to produce them in militarily-significant quantities in a relatively short time.

The widespread Iraqi use of nerve agents in the Gulf war with Iran is widely seen as the most significant breaking of a taboo since the signing of the 1925 Geneva Convention outlawing chemical warfare.

Nations which have followed the Iraqi lead in developing their own capability include Syria, North Korea and Libya, which is

led by the erratic Muammar Qaddafi.

As the super-powers have already recognised, an agreement on banning chemical weapons must cover their production as well as their use.

Although some progress has already been made in controlling the international export of the key chemicals needed, many thousands of tonnes are still traded legally each year. And any country could soon convert an existing commercial plant with little fear of detection.

In his speech to the U.N., the Soviet Foreign Minister supported President Bush's call for a global chemical weapons ban. He also accepted the U.S. offer to destroy 80 per cent of its stockpile even before the signing of a treaty, provided Moscow was prepared to verify that it had reduced its stocks to the same level.

Shevardnadze went further by proposing a halt to the production of chemical weapons before the treaty's completion.

The USSR, which is believed to hold the world's largest arsenal, only admitted to possessing chemical weapons two years ago. It now claims to have stopped production — *Lions features.*

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Third Euro-Arab Arbitration Congress concludes

Confidence — a dire need between Arabs and Europeans

Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Confidence is the key issue in two major regions of the world where efficient arbitration has become inevitable, said Mohamed Bedjaoui, judge at the International Court of Justice in the Hague, referring in particular to commercial arbitration between European and Arab countries.

In concluding remarks at the closing session of the Third Euro-Arab Arbitration Congress, whose intent was to highlight matters related to settling commercial disputes between Arab and European businessmen, Bedjaoui stressed that the importance and necessity of arbitration "between two worlds that are constantly meeting" and encouraged all Arab countries to become signatories to the New York Convention of 1958, which calls for formal recognition of international arbitration. To date only nine Arab states have signed the convention. Jordan is one of them.

Bedjaoui stressed that a distinction between domestic and international arbitration must be

maintained in all cases, particularly in Arab countries, where the Sharia is still largely applied. "Foreign legislation cannot be copied and pasted on the legal system in a given society. So new, flexible legislation must be adapted which will allow Arab countries to enter the world of legislation with greater background in the field," Bedjaoui said.

"The conference has given Jordanian participants a profound insight into the workings of the international commercial arbitration laws," said Jordanian participant Omar Nabulsi, a member of the arbitration board of the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce.

He stressed that Jordanian arbitrators could benefit particularly from the UNCITRAL model law, which stresses maximum support for the arbitration process along with a provision of an appropriate level of supervision by national courts. The level of supervision being reconse against awards where there has been excess of jurisdiction or procedural injustice; harmonisation of national arbitration laws is the aspired-for goal.

It was suggested that all countries wishing to act as international arbitration centres should structure their legislation so as to make it compatible with the model law and more accessible and comprehensible to the foreign parties and their legal representatives.

Jordan has not yet dealt with cases of international arbitration, Nabulsi said but he believes that it could if the model law were applied.

Other Jordanian lawyers attending the conference stressed the need to set up arbitration centres on a regional and international scale in the Arab World in general and Jordan in particular. Although there is an arbitration centre in Cairo, it is far from enough in an era of ever in-

creased commercial ties between the Arab World and Europe in particular, said one Jordanian lawyer attending the congress.

He also said that Jordanian arbitration laws dating back to the 1950s were in the process of being redrafted and would be based on new French arbitration laws.

Although there was some grumbling about the fact that arbitration between Arab and European and American parties was always awarded to the American and European arbitration courts, one young Jordanian lawyer stressed that once Arab legislation is updated and is able to provide the technical services that so many of the "Western courts are providing, then international arbitrations being awarded to arbitration courts in the Arab World are more likely to be awarded cases.

"While a lot of people say that it's unfair that all the cases are always being awarded to Western courts and that they don't trust our arbitration system, which I think is true, we also have to make an effort to prove that we are worthy of that chance by redrafting some of arbitration laws and providing the necessary facilities" said the lawyer.



Planning Minister Ziyad Fariz (second from right) and the EC delegation head in Amman, Christian Falkowski, Wednesday sign the grant agreement (Petra photo)

EC grants Jordan \$2.2m

AMMAN (I.T.) — A grant of \$2.2 million will be provided to Jordan from the European Community (EC) under the third protocol signed earlier with the Jordanian government, according to an agreement signed at the Ministry of Planning Wednesday.

A statement said that the grant will be channelled to small farmers in southern Jordan in the form of loans through the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC).

The ACC last year obtained a medium term loan of \$9.6 million from the European Investment Bank, which operates under EC supervision, also to back agricultural endeavours in Jordan.

Planning Minister Ziyad Fariz and the EC delegate in Jordan, Christian Falkowski, signed the agreement at the EC office in Amman.

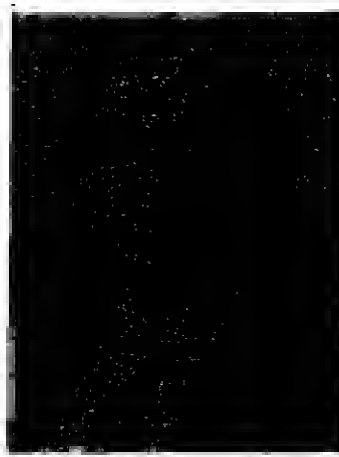
The agreement follows an accord signed last month in Amman also benefiting agricultural

projects in Jordan.

The earlier agreement provides for studies to be done on dams to be built at Mujib valley.

The studies will be financed from an EC grant of nearly JD 1.5 million under the terms of the third protocol signed last year.

Denmark to reschedule Jordanian debt, interest



Basel Jandaneh

AMMAN (Petra) — Denmark will reschedule repayment of Jordan's debts and interest according to an agreement signed Wednesday.

In line with the accord which Jordan had signed with the Paris Club in July 1989, repayment of instalments and interest on Danish loans acquired since Sept. 27, 1973 will be rescheduled.

The agreement provides for full rescheduling of all instalments from July 1, 1989 up to Dec. 31, 1990 whereby all rescheduled amounts will be paid on half-yearly equal instalments effective Sept. 30, 1995 until March 31, 2000.

The unpaid Danish debts which were due until June 30, 1989, will be paid on equal half-yearly instalments starting Sept. 30, 1994 and ending March 31, 1999, according to the agreement.

No interest will be paid on rescheduled debts, the agreement stipulates.

The rescheduling was signed by Finance and Customs Minister Bassem Jandaneh and Danish Ambassador to Jordan, Poul Bent Spindergaard.

Decisions, not discussions, stall Soviet perestroika

MOSCOW (R) — Disagreements within the Soviet leadership are stalling urgent measures to save the economy, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said in remarks published Wednesday.

Deputy Prime Minister Leonid Abalkin, a radical economist, said in an interview also published Wednesday that the country needed quick decisions, not more discussions, to halt economic decline.

Gorbachev, in a meeting Monday with editors at the Communist Party daily Pravda, said his government was having difficulty drawing up a promised emergency programme to help the economy.

"Now that we are discussing urgent measures to improve the financial market, the next year's plans and laws on forming economic relations, there are some misunderstandings," he said, according to Pravda's account of the session.

The misunderstandings "are hampering us from united approaches which would guarantee successful solutions to the tasks of perestroika," Gorbachev said, referring to his reform programme.

The Soviet leader announced in September that the government would draw up an emergency economic programme aimed above all at getting more consumer goods on the market and introducing it in parliament later this year.

Abalkin, in some of the gloomiest remarks he has made about the Soviet economy which is plagued by shortages, a huge budget deficit and inflation, said production had dropped in two-thirds of the country last month compared to September a year ago.

"If we continue to work like this, the hopes for positive results from reform are senseless," he said in remarks published by the weekly Moscow News.

"Today what we need as never before are quick administrative decisions. In this situation the least reasonable thing to do is hold meetings and discussions," he said.

Gorbachev did not elaborate on the "misunderstandings." But there have recently been signs of sharp divisions on economic policy.

Last week Politburo conservative Yegor Ligachev said sections of Soviet society were seeking to restore capitalism through introducing land-lease schemes and closing loss-making state enterprises.

And laws which would provide a legal basis for reform in industry and agriculture are stalled by parliamentary bickering.

A draft law on property ownership was sent back to commission last week after a heated debate on the legitimacy of private property. Once the commission agrees on a draft, it will be published for nationwide discussion, further delaying the passage of the law.

One step the parliament has taken to blunt economic losses — a ban on strikes in the energy and transport sectors — was defied by Siberian miners who downed tools for two hours Monday and the Vorkuta miners who went ahead with their strike vote.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Emirates to buy five more Airbus

DUBAI (R) — Emirates Airlines of the United Arab Emirates has said it will buy five more Airbus in a deal worth nearly \$400 million. Managing Director Maurice Flanagan told Reuters a memorandum of understanding had been signed with the European consortium Airbus Industrie for two A330s and three A310-330s for about \$390 million to be delivered in the next seven years. Emirates bought three A300-600R Airbus for about \$240 million this year as part of its plan to double cargo and passenger capacity by mid-1991. Airbus, based in Toulouse in France, is owned 35 per cent each by France's Aerospatiale and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm of West Germany, 20 per cent by British Aerospace, and four per cent by Spain's Casa. Bahrain-based Gulf Air said last week it would buy 12 Airbus A-320s and six new Boeing 767-300s. A spokesman for Kuwait Airways said his company was undecided whether to buy Airbus, Boeing, or both.

New shares to fund BALEXCO

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain will fund expansion of the government-owned Bahrain Aluminium Extrusion Company (BALEXCO) by selling shares to Bahraini, Kuwaiti and Saudi Arabian industrialists, industry sources have said. Rashed Al Dhahbi, director of industrial protection and registration, said the government would cover most of the cost of the planned 4.7 million dinar (\$12.5 million) expansion by a private share placement. BALEXCO would sell 1.83 million new shares to major industrialists in the three countries by the end of the year, the sources said. Al Dhahbi declined to give the value of the new shares but said the issue would cover most of the development cost needed to double production to 12,000 tonnes annually. BALEXCO makes doors, window frames and cladding from aluminium ingots produced in Bahrain. The company has a paid-in capital of 6.34 million dinars (\$17 million) from 3.17 million shares at present but the government is considering a public floating of some BALEXCO shares as part of its drive to privatise its industries.

ACP pressures European Community

BRUSSELS (R) — Third World states, worried that reforming East Bloc states are stealing the attention of the European Community (EC) are determined this weekend to secure their best EC aid deal. Three days of ministerial talks in Luxembourg starting Friday are the climax of a year's negotiations between the 12-nation EC and 66 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) developing countries. ACP states have long been concerned that their privileged access to the Community might suffer from its drive to become a giant barrier-free market by the end of 1992. Now they fear that the EC's political and economic support for Soviet Bloc reformers might weaken its commitment to the Third World. "Nobody should be under the impression that the ACP is so frightened that we might sign anything to allow the Europeans to concentrate on East-West relations," Nigerian Ambassador Joshua Iroha said this week. "Our relations with the EC are fully as important as the EC's East-West relations," he added.

Iran plans \$10b agricultural spending

NICOSIA (R) — Iran plans to spend \$10 billion in hard currency on agriculture in the next five years, the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Agriculture Minister Issa Kalantari as saying. Kalantari said a five-year agricultural development plan to be presented to parliament next week aimed at bringing 300,000 hectares of additional land under cultivation and irrigate two million hectares currently dry-farmed. IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Kalantari as saying the plan also includes 800 billion riyals (\$11 billion at the official exchange rate) of expenditure in local currency — a quarter of it on research and training. Low yield and backward farming methods force Iran to import a large part of its food, including 2.5 tonnes of wheat, per year.

Liberia could not resist Taiwan

PEKING (R) — Liberia recognised Taiwan and risked its ties with Peking because falling world commodity prices meant it could not resist Taiwan's offer of aid, the country's former ambassador to China has said. "Taiwan offered aid. We couldn't say no," the ambassador said in an interview. "We need assistance. We are a developing country. Our main export is iron ore which has slumped on the world market." In an angry commentary, China accused Taiwan of using "silver bullet diplomacy to buy people's hearts and minds." Diplomats said Peking was clearly worried that Taipei could use its massive foreign-exchange reserves to buy more allies in the developing world at a time when China was suffering from poor ties with the West because of its crackdown on the student democracy movement in June. Taiwan has agreed to give Liberia \$200 million for aid projects.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday October 25, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	100.4	101.4
U.S. dollar	626.0	632.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	442.5	446.9
Pound Sterling	1005.6	1015.7	Dutch guilder	302.0	305.0
Deutschemark	341.2	344.6	Swiss franc	96.0	99.0
Swiss franc	399.1	393.0	Italian lira (for 100)	46.4	46.9
			Belgian franc (for 10)	162.0	163.6

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.6070/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1710/20	Canadian dollar
	1.8365/92	Deutschemark
	2.0770/80	Dutch guilder
	1.6135/45	Swiss franc
	38.61/64	Belgian franc
	6.2470/2520	French franc
	1348/1349	Italian lire
	141.55/65	Japanese yen
	6.3875/3925	Swedish crown
	6.8700/50	Norwegian crown
	7.1500/50	Danish crown
One ounce of gold	368.30/368.80	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — A better than expected current account deficit sparked a light rally on the share market but failed to prevent a sharply weaker close. The All Ordinaries index lost 15.7 to 1,633.4.

TOKYO — The Nikkei index slipped 84.15 points at the close to 35,442.40 after late profit-taking in heavy trading, inflated by a focus on domestic-linked shares with land assets.

HONG KONG — Investors responded to Wall Street's volatility by scurrying for the sidelines and letting stocks slide steadily in thin trade. The Hang Seng index fell 25.37 to 2,706.6.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed sharply lower across the board in thin trading. The Straits Times industrial index fell 25.17 to 1,333.25.

BOMBAY — Share prices shrugged off lethargy to rally strongly on speculative buying ahead of the Hindu new year. In textiles, Century Enka soared 125 rupees to 3,125 and Century 80 to 2,280. Baroda Rayon jumped 45 to 757.50.

FRANKFURT — Prices slipped 1.7 per cent in cautious trading as Wall Street's ups and downs continued to unsettle the nervous market. The DAX index fell 26.29 to 1,481.08.

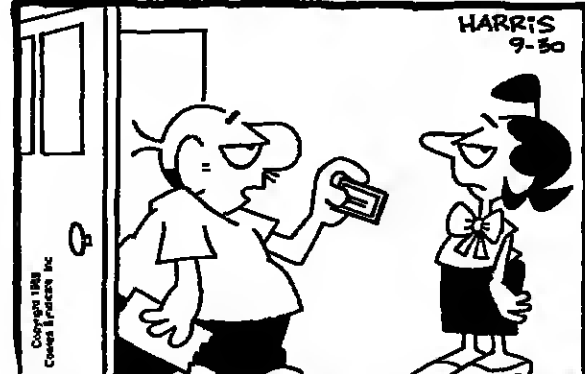
PARIS — Prices were 0.78 per cent weaker at midday in nervous trading before Wall Street's opening.

ZURICH — Shares closed lower in nervous trading in reaction to continued uncertainty in the U.S. market. Turnover was modest. The all-share Swiss performance index fell 16.7 to 1,113.1.

LONDON — Share prices were slightly firmer in fairly restrained afternoon business but dealers warned that Wall Street remained the focus of attention. At 1519 GMT the FTSE index was up 7.5 to 2,156.8.

NEW YORK — Recent volatility drove many investors away from the market and trading was thin in mid-morning. The Dow was down one to 2,658.

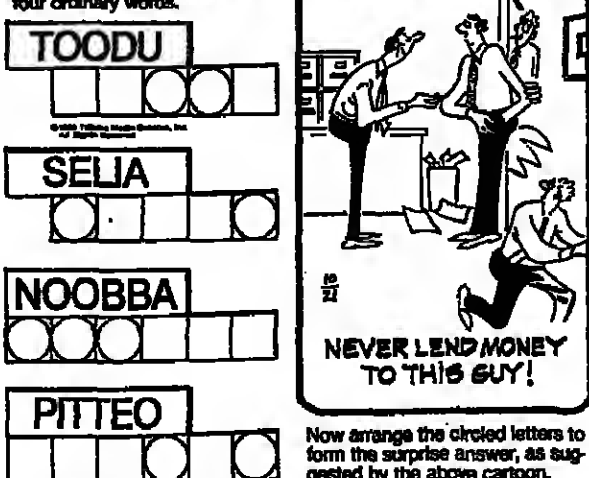
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"The bank says we don't meet the standards for our gold card. They sent us their rust card."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



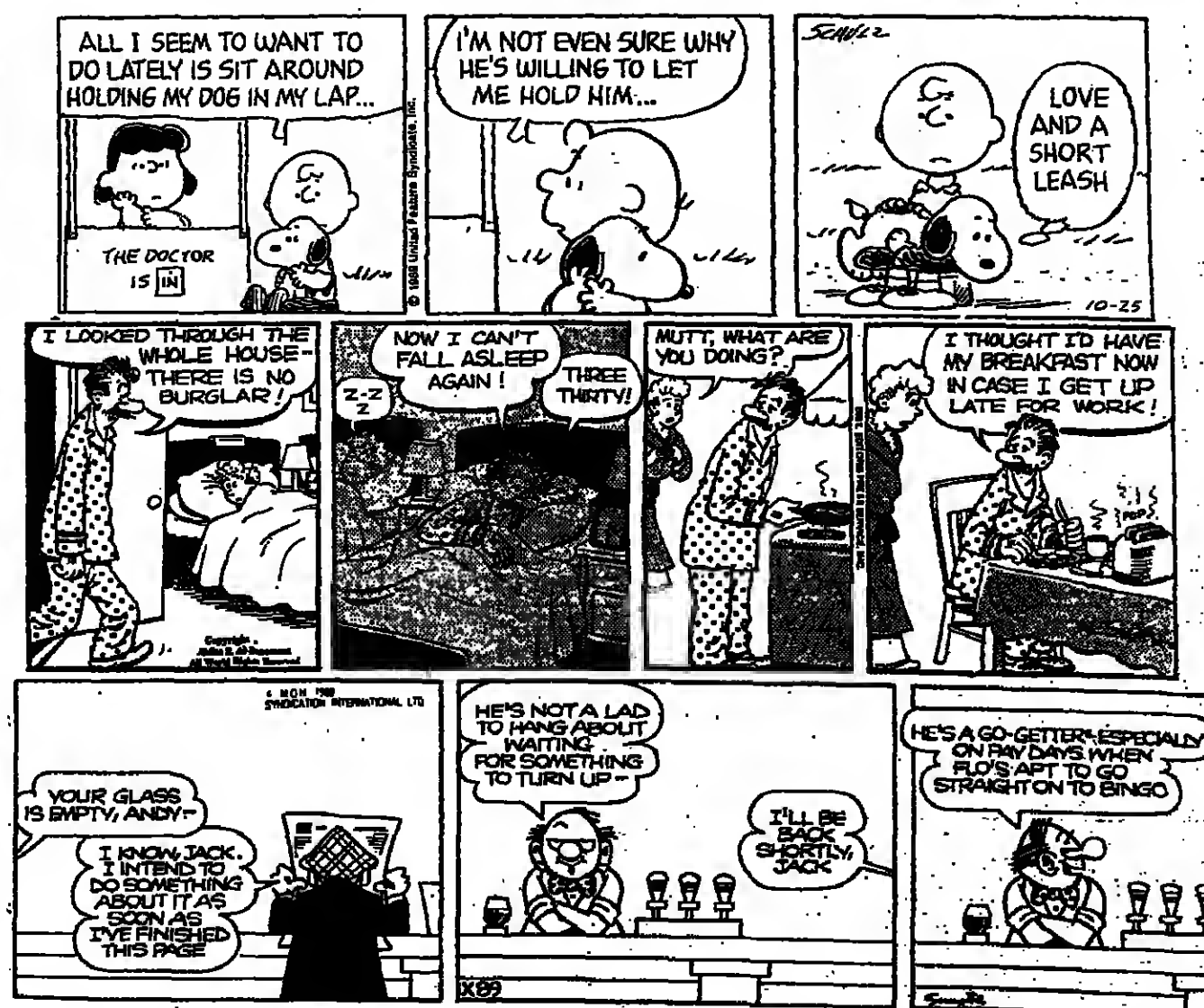
Answer here: (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: AGONY LINER WATERY HOMAGE
Answer: Clothes make the man, especially when worn by this — THE RIGHT WOMAN

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 20 to April 17) Make a list of your obligations so you can handle them efficiently. A down to earth conversation with those at home will produce fine results.

TAURUS: (April 18 to May 19) Let a good friend aid you in solving a financial problem. A younger associate will have good ideas for you to make more money and business success.

GEMINI: (May 20 to June 20) Let your family see that you are really concerned with conditions at your residence. You can begin to realize reward from all of your hard work and conscientious duties.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 21 to July 21) A good time to make an effort to see kin and comrades that you really like. Try to find out how you can please your attachment over a period of time.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Concentrate on every single detail necessary for you to be successful in your business. You have a chance to get better acquainted by inviting fine persons into your home.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) A trip with a resourceful couple can bring many benefits. Do cheerfully duties and chores expected of you by your attachment.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 22) Two friends will be very helpful to you in a business or money matter. Take a long range view now just how you can improve home conditions.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your best opportunities now will come from a distance. Put some more modern and efficient touches on your residence.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Be more aware of your public standing and improve it by doing a better daily job. Take some flowers home to please family and give more colour to your residence.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Use the expertise of a good friend now to your advantage. In spare time keep socially very busy. Try to get a family member to go on a jaunt with you.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 to February 18) Dashing many places with interesting friends will bring much pleasure. See with your attachment as many worldly matters and places as possible.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 19) Listen to the expert opinion given to you by an older and long time friend. Invite the most important persons available into your home.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1989

ARIES: (March 20 to April 17) A woman will introduce you to interesting acquaintances that could become friends. Being critical towards a business contact could be very unwise now.

TAURUS: (April 18 to May 19) An analytical younger partner can aid you very much in a business matter. You will be shown by a good friend how to handle your problems much better.

GEMINI: (May 20 to June 20) Don't invite any contentious friends into your home or harmony will be threatened. New jet age ideas will help improve your present business conditions.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 21 to July 21) You can make money now from your own creative ideas. Much harmony should exist today at your home. Listen to all those comments hurled in your direction now by co-workers.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Dive into a bigger course of action that can apply to your daily duties. Look at your big money possibilities now and don't fuss about the petty views.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Exciting conditions are happening with you or your usual routine. Spend a little extra to make your property more attractive. A progressive friend will aid

you with your duties.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 22) Do something new that will be of special importance to your attachment. Look for a plan in the future to better invest any assets.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Bring as much excitement as possible into your home today. Be more open minded to ways to add to your holdings. Much activity with many friends will require that you economize.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Your business matters may be delayed but they break in your favour shortly. Give a nice party to repay your social debts and make new contacts.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Get into new phases of business, money that can add to your income. Look closely to the nature of any and all friends in your association.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 to February 18) You can be very direct with your friends on just what they can do for you and study different ways to be more successful on your business affairs.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 19) Put a check on the amount a profligate associate wants to spend. A delayed trip with an older friend is all to your benefit.

THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Yates

ACROSS

1 After place or face

5 Wading bird

10 Remark

14 Sunscreen ingredient

15 Indulge

16 Breinchild

17 Designating the best

19 Hotel name

20 Allow

21 Fat component

22 Logic

23 Good look

25 Evergreens

27 Elected ones

28 Keeps busy

32 Orled pepo

35 Jazz offering

38 Hold sway

39 Self's kin

40 One of a trio

41 Climber

42 Fit of pique

43 Theatrical sign

44 Hindu instrument

45 Giltary strands

47 Part of SPCA: abbr.

48 Bark cloths

51 Pursuits

55 On the lookout

58 Underway

60 Showery

61 "Return of the"

62 Wom

64 Arabian gutt

65 Berried

66 Beaded

67 Pealed

68 Salad greens

69 Welgthy

DOWN

1 Kind of TV

2 Opp

3 86 for one

4 Sandra or Ruby

5 Puts on ice

6 Yokel

7 Scope

8 Mary a soul

9 Sea bird

10 News company

11 Norse god

12 Soaks to soften

13 Sun

14 Golf game

15 Chorus

16 Starters

17 Barrier: abbr.

18 Clubs for one

19 Armored

20 Look intently

21 Rush of wind

22 Potent beginning

23 — arms (mad)

24 A hom for short

25 Demer —

26 Gulle

27 Succor

28 Healthy

29 Teams

30 Abominete

31 Gnat specialty

32 Marshy land

33 Laconic

34 Expensive

35 Spartan queen

36 Sr. statesman

37 Grands

38 Parenting art for short

39 — of roses

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ARABY BARS BARS
CORRIDOR ALIVE LITTLE
REIGN ADAM REAN
EODIA CREDIT CARD
PORE DUST
SHIPPING SPIRIT
MARINE SPIRIT
ADAMS VULGAR FOU
TODAY DOGS
CARAVAN MOUNTAIN
MARTIN RIDGE
BRIGANTINE TIGER
LIEGE LIEGE GARDEN
LEISURE NAME ADRIEN
SASIS IRON SIELED

All Stars Classic:
Lendl defeats McEnroe

BOLOGNA, Italy (AP) — Ivan Lendl, the number one player in the world, took 90 minutes to defeat his American archrival John McEnroe 6-4, 7-5 in Tuesday night's final of the All Stars Tennis Classic in this north Italian city.

Prizes of the two-day, four-player exhibition were not disclosed by organizers.

The Czechoslovak player capitalised on his powerful serve and passing shots to down McEnroe.

ranked fourth in the list of the Professional Players Association (ATP).

Lendl, who served 11 aces in the match, broke McEnroe's serve in the very first game and made another decisive break in the 11th game of the second set.

The Czechoslovak star said he will give up major clay-court tournaments next year, including Paris, Monte Carlo and Rome, to concentrate on a prestigious victory in Wimbledon.

S. Korea qualifies for World Cup

SINGAPORE (R) — South Korea beat Saudi Arabia 2-0 Wednesday to qualify for next year's World Cup finals in Italy, the second time in a row they have reached the finals.

The Koreans, with six veterans of the 1986 Mexico finals, booked their passage to Italy with goals by Hwang Bo-Kwang and Hwang Seon-Hong, maintaining their unbeaten record in the six-team Asian group final qualifying tournament.

Even if they lose their last

match against the United Arab Emirates Saturday, the Koreans have enough points to ensure they take one of the two cup berths reserved for Asia.

Asian champions Saudi Arabia, the pre-tournament favourites, put up a good fight but lacked finish. They badly missed the services of top striker Majed Abdullah, suspended for two matches for hitting a UAE player in last Saturday's match.

The first half belonged to the Koreans whose constant attack

EC championship:

Mecir, Leconte victorious

ANTWERP, Belgium (AP) — Olympic tennis champion Miloslav Mecir, Soviet Andrei Chesnokov and Frenchman Henri Leconte won in different styles Tuesday to reach the second round of the \$1,050,000 European Community championship.

Leconte, who slumped to 37th in the world this year, needed over two hours to beat 28th-ranked Paolo Cane of Italy 6-3, 6-7, 6-3, and earn a match against defending champion John McEn-

roe, seeded second here.

Mecir, of Czechoslovakia, also in the midst of a bad streak that dropped him to 25th place in the rankings, expended a little less effort to beat Martin Jaito of Argentina in straight sets, 6-4, 6-1.

But Chesnokov, 23, had the easiest time of all. His opponent, Anders Jarryd of Sweden, retired with an injured lower back after losing the first set 6-3.

Jarryd moved sluggishly throughout the first set and had no reply to the deep strokes of Chesnokov, last year's runner-up. The Soviet meets top-seeded Ivan Lendl in the next round.

Leconte, 26, is trying to regain his top form after surgery on a slipped disk in his spine this summer. A mercurial player, he has often been in the world's top 10 when spared of injury and has played several grand matches against McEnroe.

The Frenchman has rarely performed well at the 16,000-capacity sports palace, and he was ousted in first round play here last year.

Mecir has made the final twice, losing in 1986 to McEnroe and one year later to Ivan Lendl, who is top-seeded in the invitational here.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
TO THE LADIES OF AMMAN

Have you collected your voting card?
You have the right to vote for Parliament.
Choose the right candidate.

With compliments,
HAMDI S. TABBA'A
(3rd Precinct, Amman)

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Wael Real Estate
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PASSPORT LOST

Shamsul Hoque s/o MD. Afatar lost Bangladesh international passport No. C 400871 on 15.9.89 in Jabel Amman.

If found, please contact 659922 or nearest police station.

FOR ALL EX-STUDENTS (JORDANIANS)
WHO HAVE STUDIED IN INDIA

The Embassy of India, Amman, is compiling a list of Jordanians who have studied in India. All concerned Jordanians are requested to send us early their names, addresses and places of study in India etc.

To the Embassy of India, Jabel Amman, First Circle, P.O. Box 2168, Amman, for the compilation of such a list.

REQUIRED

A Multinational Company that deals with industrial products is in need of:
Sales Engineer
Base: Gulf/Saudi Arabia area after successful probationary period.

Qualifications:
— Holder of Civil or Mechanical Engineering Degree.
— Have the ability to work with people of different disciplines and possess sales talent.

Interested candidates send your handwritten C.V. to P.O. Box: 104121, Amman, Jordan. Confidentiality is secured.

LOST

One Persian male cat behind the Royal Guest House. last seen on Sunday October 10th. White with green eyes and black tip fur wearing brown leather collar and blue collar. A 200 reward given for return.

Please call 606751

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1988 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

A TRUMP COUP TOMMY SPECIAL

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ Q 9 6 3
♥ J 7 5 2
♦ 10 4
♣ 7 6 3

EAST
♠ A 10 8 7
♥ A K 10
♦ 7 3
♣ J 9 6 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K J 5 2
♥ Void
♦ A K Q 8 5 2
♣ A K Q

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of ♣.
They say that, if you put enough monkeys at enough typewriters, sooner or later one of them will produce a literary masterpiece. Similarly, let Trump Coup Tommy play long enough, and a hand will come up suited to his peculiar talents—a bad player most of the time, he becomes a star when trumps break badly.

The auction, for Tommy, was fairly routine. His bid of five spades

asked about trump quality, and North felt that four to the queen was sufficient to accept the slam invitation.

West led a heart, ruffed by Tommy. The king of spades was allowed to win, but West captured the jack with his ace as East showed out. That caught Tommy's attention, and when West forced his last trump with a heart return, Tommy knew that only a trump coup would salvage the contract.

For that to succeed, TCT needed a 3-2 diamond break—the suit he intended running. And Tommy worked out that, since he would get four discards on diamonds on which he could let go two hearts and two clubs, he needed to cash only one club. After taking two high diamond tricks and a high club, Tommy proceeded to run his diamonds.

If West ruffed at any point, declarer would overruff in dummy, draw the last trump and his own hand would be good. West's refusal to ruff only delayed the inevitable. Tommy reduced the hand to a position where West held 10 of trumps and the table had Q 9, with the lead in the closed hand. When Tommy led a club, dummy had to score the last two tricks no matter how West defended.

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2. Furnished parhouse consisting of bedroom, salon, kitchen, bathroom, central heating, and telephone.
Location: Shmeisani, near the Yugoslav Embassy.

Please call tel. 661658

DELUXE BUILDING FOR RENT

A two-floor building is available for rent in Shmeisani area comprising two separate flats each having an area of 285 square metres. Building has been the Swedish Embassy in Amman for eight years. Location is opposite Red Cross and Jordan Supermarket. It is in an excellent location, renovated, and can be the residence of embassies, diplomatic missions, or offices. Preference is to let both flats together but not a must.

Interested parties can call Burhan Abdul Hadi in Zerka (09) 911211 and/or visit the premises on Saturday 28.10.89 and Sunday 29.10.89.



NOTICE TO AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS

Australian citizens resident in Jordan who have not already done so are invited to register with the Australian Embassy in Amman, or to update their records.

The purpose of compiling a register of Australian citizens abroad is solely for the use of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in relation to consular activities, and the information contained therein is not passed on to any other authority.

The Embassy is open from 0900-1200 Sundays - Thursdays (inclusive) for consular clients.

Cinema Tel: 625155

RAINBOW

Dustin Hoffman
Tom Cruise
in
RAIN MAN
Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 9:00

Cinema Tel: 677421

CONCORD

LET'S
GET HARRY

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

FAST
FORWARD

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571

NIJOM

ROCKY II

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420

PLAZA

Dustin Hoffman
Tom Cruise
in
RAIN MAN
Performances: 4:00, 6:45, 9:30

July in July

Charges dropped against about 1,000 S. African protesters

CAPE TOWN (R) — Archbishop Desmond Tutu and about 1,000 others arrested during a recent campaign against apartheid in Cape Town will not face charges in court, a senior prosecutor said Wednesday.

"I have decided not to continue with any prosecution arising out of that period," Cape Attorney General Neil Rossouw told Reuters.

Police clashed almost daily in August and September with anti-apartheid demonstrators who staged illegal marches and tried to defy racial segregation laws in and around Cape Town.

Tutu and World Reformed Churches leader Allan Boesak were arrested repeatedly and over 1,000 others were charged under three-year-old emergency regulations.

Police used shotguns, tear gas, whips and dogs to counter the demonstrations leading up to parliamentary elections on Sept. 6

that excluded South Africa's 26 million blacks.

Journalists and television cameramen were routinely detained to prevent them from covering the clashes.

After the white National Party was re-elected to power, President F.W. de Klerk began to allow anti-government marches and rallies for the first time in 30 years.

Eight anti-apartheid leaders who had been released from detention without trial into a form of house arrest were told Tuesday that they would not be charged for openly defying clamps on their freedom.

One of them was white lawyer Willie Hofmeyer, freed from de-

tention without trial earlier this month after a three-week hunger strike.

Anti-government lawyer Eisa Moosa said Rossouw's decision to drop the charges did not mean that the eight could ignore the restrictions in future.

"They are still restricted. They could be arrested again. If the politicians feel that these laws should not be applied then they should scrap them," Moosa said.

Meanwhile, the state radio said Wednesday that the Soviet Union could play an important role in helping to start talks between South Africa's white government and its black adversaries.

The South African Broadcasting Corp., in a commentary, said the Soviet Union was the only major power with influence over the African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla movement.

The ANC has said it will neither halt its use of violence nor enter negotiations until the gov-

ernment legalises it, frees all political prisoners, ends the 40-month-old state of emergency and lifts restrictions on opposition activity. The government says the ANC is welcome to enter negotiations if it commits itself to peaceful solutions.

"While it must be stressed that the Soviet Union ... will remain the main supplier of weapons to the ANC as long as it decides to continue its programme of violence, the Soviet Union is nevertheless now publicly urging the ANC to take part in a political, or negotiated, settlement," the radio commentary said.

"There is a clear need for all sides to concentrate less on preconditions and to get down to initial talks about the negotiations that they must eventually take part in," the commentary said. "The Soviet Union could play an important role as a facilitator in working with other parties to loosen the current logjam."

Bush attacks critics on Eastern European aid

NEW YORK (AP) — President George Bush says he does not share the concern that some European countries have about a reunified Germany because he believes in the West German commitment to the Western alliance.

"And I don't see Germany, in order to get reunification, going off onto what some are concerned about, and that is a neutralist path that puts them at odds, or potentially at odds, with their NATO partners," Bush told the New York Times in an interview Tuesday.

Last week, Secretary of State James Baker said reunification was a "legitimate right" of the German people but said it must take place in a peaceful way and on the basis of "Western values."

"It takes time," Bush said in the interview published Wednesday. "It takes a prudent evolution. It takes work between them. And understanding between the French and the Germans and the British and the Germans on all this. But the subject is so much more front and center because of the rapid changes that are taking place in East Germany."

In Bonn Tuesday, West Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he was prepared to meet with East Germany's new leader, Egon Krenz, to advance inter-German relations. Meanwhile Krenz, who was formally elected president by East Germany's parliament Tuesday, reaffirmed East Germany's allegiance to Communist orthodoxy, despite the reform sweeping through the Soviet Bloc.

In the White House interview Tuesday, Bush also struck back at congressional critics of his aid programme for Eastern Europe, saying he's tired of complaints from "people who found Poland on the globe about three weeks ago."

He said changes taking place in Eastern Europe are "absolutely extraordinary, but I'm not going to be stampeded overreacting to any of this."

During a visit to Eastern Europe in July, Bush proposed a three-year, \$149-million-aid package for Poland and Hungary, designed to encourage fledgling economic and political reforms.

Gonzalez's majority under threat in Spanish elections

MADRID (R) — Spain's Socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez seems certain to win a third term in Sunday's general election, but simmering social discontent is threatening to end his seven-year-old overall majority.

As the election campaign wears on, the struggle gets tougher for the 47-year-old prime minister, according to opinion polls.

Surveys which earlier this month predicted an easy victory for his Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE), now see it struggling to cross the threshold of 176 seats that ensures total control of the 350-seat parliament.

Gonzalez is urging voters to return him to power to help him complete Spain's transformation into a modern nation. "Spain can succeed... It faces its best opportunity since the 19th century," he said.

He believes the country can double the size of its economy by the end of the century if current growth, running at more than four per cent annually, is maintained.

Among the recent surveys, the most optimistic for the PSOE, in the daily El Pais, gave it between 176 and 182 seats.

The most pessimistic, in the daily El Mundo, forecast it would win 168 seats, down from 184 in the last general election three years ago.

But perhaps the most worrying indication for Gonzalez was the revelation in El Pais that one million of the 29.6 million registered voters are still wondering whether to vote for the PSOE or for the Communist-led United Left (IU) Coalition.

IU, under its new leader Julio Anguita, capitalised on discontent with the uneven sharing of an unprecedented economic boom and is poised to make the 'biggest' gains in the elections.

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COLUMN

Punk classic matches top spot

NEW YORK (R) — Rolling Stone magazine has named London Calling by the now disbanded punk rock group The Clash as the best album of the 1980s — even though it was originally released in 1979 and its music is at odds with almost a whole decade of pop music. The editors of Rolling Stone said that London Calling was the best of the 1980s with Purple Rain, the soundtrack to the Prince film of the same name coming in second and U2's The Joshua Tree third. London Calling, a collection of angry, punk anthems, was originally released in England in 1979. But since it was not out in the United States until January 1980, it was eligible for inclusion. The record is an odd choice to represent the 1980s, a decade dominated by music videos, heavy metal and Hollywood-style pop icons. London Calling sums up the late 1970s rather than anticipating anything, except, perhaps, the decline of that musical style. The magazine's explanation for the pick reads: "The Clash stormed the gates of rock convention and singlehandedly set the agenda — musically, politically and emotionally — for the decade to come." Punk music faded in the 1980s as "fans rallied around Prince, Bruce Springsteen and Madonna."

NEW YORK (R) — Being cute may not be enough to ensure survival in the 1990s and certainly it is not helping Australia's most lovable animal, the koala. The koala could become extinct from venereal disease, stress and loss of its natural habitat and now needs an international effort to rescue it, according to a group dedicated to saving the marsupial, the Australian Koala Foundation. The group's national manager, Debbie Tabart, said in an interview here that the foundation is trying to raise \$5 million worldwide to save the koala, which is as much a symbol of Australia as the kangaroo. Foster's lager and slouch hats with the koala pinned on one side. "The koala is not in short-term danger, but the long-term outlook is not good. About 50 per cent are affected by chlamydia, a sexually-transmitted disease that causes blindness, female infertility and pneumonia," she said as she began a litany of koala woes. She added that koalas are also suffering from malnutrition because the eucalyptus trees they feed on are being cut down by suburbanites or destroyed by the "die-back" tree disease. "As a result of these problems, the koala's stress levels are going up, making it more prone to diseases that lead to early death," Tabart said. The koala's natural habitat has been cut by about 80 per cent as mankind encroaches on the woodlands it lives in.

Cute animal has VD

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Gorky Park fails to arrive

DALLAS (AP) — An appearance by the Soviet rock group Gorky Park to present a guitar to the Hard Rock Cafe had to be cancelled. Despite the Soviet Union's policy of glasnost, or openness, the group could not get exit visas to attend the event, said a spokesman for the rock club. Gorky Park was a headliner at the recent Moscow Music Peace Festival along with Bon Jovi, the Scorpions, Cinderella and Motley Crue.

Global weather

(major world cities)		MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	48	15	61	Cloudy
ATHENS	55	23	78	Clear
BAHRAIN	22	72	30	Clear
BANGKOK	24	76	44	Clear
BUENOS AIRES	18	24	75	Fair
CAROL	18	21	78	Clear
CHICAGO	11	51	19	Clear
COPENHAGEN	11	22	14	Clear
FRANKFURT	09	48	20	Cloudy
GENEVA	06	43	19	Clear
HONG KONG	23	73	27	Clear
ISRAEL	11	52	19	Clear
LONDON	11	52	21	Clear
LOS ANGELES	11	52	21	Clear
MADRID	12	54	24	Clear
MEXICO	25	77	30	Cloudy
MONTREAL	08	41	17	Clear
MOSCOW	15	51	23	Clear
NEW DELHI	07	43	55	Clear
NEW YORK	08	47	20	Clear
PARIS	11	52	21	Clear
ROME	08	46	24	Clear
STOCKHOLM	19	59	29	Clear
TOKYO	12	54	21	Clear
VIENNA	10	50	21	Clear

Kampuchean rebels control Pailin

BANGKOK (AP) — Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila Wednesday said it was true that Khmer Rouge guerrillas have seized the town of Pailin in Western Kampuchea and have captured artillery guns and tanks.

The reported seizure of the town in a gem-rich area near the Thai border Sunday would be a major victory for the Khmer Rouge in its 11-year-old war against the Vietnamese-installed government in Kampuchea.

Officers in the Phnom Penh army had predicted they could hold the town, which the Khmer Rouge said earlier this week had been taken.

Siddhi is the first top Thai official to publicly state that Pailin was in guerrilla hands.

But he also told a weekly news briefing that neither the Phnom Penh government nor the guerrillas were strong enough to win a clear victory.

"In the end, they will have to compromise and come back to negotiations," he predicted.

Thailand is leading efforts to restart Kampuchean peace nego-

tations, stalled since the failure of an international conference in Paris in August.

The main stumbling block at the Paris talks was Kampuchea's refusal to agree to a role in any future coalition government for the Khmer Rouge, which has been blamed for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Kampuchians when it ruled the country from 1975-78.

Vietnam invaded the country in 1978, ousted the Khmer Rouge and installed a pro-Hanoi government.

Siddhi said that according to Thai military reports, the guerrillas had captured nine artillery pieces, four tanks, six trucks and large quantities of ammunition in their assault on Pailin, which Kampuchean officials have said is unoccupied.

Thai military sources said the Phnom Penh forces had pulled back to Route 10 linking Pailin with the provincial capital of Battambang, but the Khmer Rouge continued its attacks and was trying to seize more territory.

The Khmer Rouge killed 120 Phnom Penh soldiers and cap-

tured 17 in their final assault on Pailin, the sources said.

The Communist Khmer Rouge is the strongest faction in a guerrilla coalition that also includes the non-Communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front and the army of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The two non-Communist groups also have scored victories in western Kampuchea north of Pailin since late September, when Vietnam made what it said was the pullout of its last troops from Kampuchea.

Siddhi said Wednesday it was unclear whether the two factions could hold onto their gains.

On Tuesday, heavy fighting was reported along Route 69 as KPNLF guerrillas advanced toward Svey Chek, which they described as the only barrier between them and the strategy town of Sisophon.

Dien Del, deputy commander of the KPNLF, claimed Tuesday his group had seized eight small government outposts and cut Route 69 south and north of Svey Chek.

Colombia to continue extraditing drug barons

BOGOTA (R) — The Colombian government, in an attempt to defuse a legal controversy over the extradition of drug suspects to the United States, has vowed to continue extraditions in adherence with the law.

It also dismissed a peace offer from drug barons who said they would end a two month war against the establishment if the extraditions were stopped.

The government's security council said the extradition of drug suspects under emergency decrees issued two months ago had been ruled constitutional by the supreme court.

"The government will continue to respect this ruling," said the council, made up of the president, the defence and interior ministers and army and police chiefs.

The statement appeared to be a reply to press reports indicating that an Oct. 3 supreme court ruling barred the government from ordering the extradition of drug suspects by executive order, saying this was valid only where no extradition treaty existed.

9 remain missing after San Francisco quake

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Recovery advanced into its second week Wednesday for an earthquake-rattled region feeling an aftershock of numbers — a stronger Richter Scale reading, a 50-50 chance of a new jolt and an infusion of relief money.

Nine people remain missing, and the death toll from the Oct. 17 temblor climbed to 63 with a coroner's discovery of a 39th victim from double-decked Nimitz Freeway across San Francisco Bay in Oakland. The first damage claim against the state was filed by two motorists injured in the collapse.

In Congress, the Senate was expected to approve a House-

passed bill that would send \$2.85 billion to northern California. Damage estimates have been set at 7.1 billion, making it the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history.

Church bells tolled at 5:04 p.m. Tuesday, one week to the minute after the quake. It packed more punch than first thought, and the U.S. Geological Survey upped the magnitude to 7.1 from 6.9 on the Richter Scale after checking 18 seismic stations around the world.

Jumpy residents were also told that there is a 50-50 chance of a 5.0 aftershock over the next two months, and there is an 11 per cent shot of a 6.0 shock. A 5.0

Richter reading can cause considerable damage. 6.0 can be severe, especially to buildings already weakened.

An aftershock of 4.5 was registered at 6:27 p.m. Tuesday (017 GMT Wednesday), the latest of about 3,500 aftershocks since Oct. 17.

"I'm still shook up. Everything I hear a noise I jump," said Ela Mae Douglas, owner of a cafe near the Nimitz Freeway.

And for all the death and destruction, Elizabeth Patrice Cupples celebrated her first week of life. She was born at 5:03 p.m. on Oct. 17 by Caesarean section, and doctors shielded her mother by leaning over the incision.

"You were born and the earth moved," said her father, James, who was at his wife's side in the delivery room of Santa Cruz Community Hospital.

In Oakland, demolition crews were taking down sections of the freeway. They fear that still-standing sections could fall.

Four sections remain inaccessible, and the search for more bodies was delayed until at least Thursday because the road is too shaky. Authorities have abandoned hope of finding anyone alive in the rubble.

Meanwhile, workers removed the section of the lower deck of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Tuesday.

Church sparks controversy by stepping into elections

ROME (AP) — A century after the Vatican lost control of Rome, politicians are accusing the Roman Catholic Church of still trying to control politics in the city of the Pope.

The charge results from a speech by the papal vicar for Rome suggesting that voters choose the Christian Democrats, Italy's only church-linked party, in city mayoral elections this weekend.

The appeal by Cardinal Ugo Poletti has been a dominant issue in the campaign and touched off a national outcry about the church's involvement in Italian politics.